



A DEFINING MOMENT

Touching the Nations for Christ

The Word for Modern-day Chinese Chinese Bible Translation & Distribution

Holman Bible Outreach International

NEED

Estimates of the number of Christians in China vary widely. While the government's official figure is about 15 million, unofficial estimates put the number at a minimum of 20 million—with perhaps as many as 70 million—and that number is growing at a very fast rate today.

No translation of the Bible has yet found broad acceptance within the Chinese Christian community. A computer comparison of the most popular translation currently in use with the original Hebrew found that only 47% of the words have been translated accurately. The older translations are difficult to read because the lexical meanings of many words have changed.

Consequently, many are confused by what the Bible says and distrust the accuracy of God's Word.

SOLUTION

To eliminate the doubts of the Bible caused by poor translations and to win the next generation of Chinese to the Lord, it is imperative that an accurate translation of the Bible be produced for the Chinese in the Mandarin language. Since the illiteracy numbers in China continue to rise, a new translation must also be listener-friendly, meaning it can be understood when read aloud. It also must have the involvement of credible mainland Chinese Christians at every stage of the translation process to gain widespread acceptance among the Chinese.

GOALS

One of the goals of this project, the Gospel of John translated and in print, has already been accomplished. The primary goals now are to have the New Testament translated and printed by summer of 2008, and to complete the Old Testament by 2011. This translation will be widely distributed to Chinese people throughout the world.

METHODOLOGY

Holman Bible Outreach International is working with strategic partners for staffing the project and providing the financial resources. This strategic alliance guarantees accuracy of the translation, quality of publications, effectiveness of distribution, production of suitable supplemental materials and will also expedite the completion, distribution, effectiveness and acceptance of the Chinese Standard Bible.

To build support for the completed translation of the Bible in its entirety, portions will be published and also distributed through other appropriate channels, with the intention that the content, integrity and language clarity of each portion will be recognized and embraced by the Chinese Christian community. The books of John and Romans have already been published.

EVALUATION

Throughout the five-year project, local leaders and LifeWay team members will conduct a review every six months to determine progress toward the initial goals. Adjustments to the goals will be made as the situation warrants.

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

Chinese Standard New Testament

Travel/Accommodations	\$ 167,000
Greek Scholars	\$ 64,200
Promotion/Marketing	\$ 35,000
Translation/Recording of CDs	\$ 64,500
Printing/Shipping of 1 million N.T.s	\$2,200,000
Distribution cost New Testaments	\$ 150,000
Administration	\$ 24,000

Translating the Old Testament

Travel Expense - Translators	\$ 50,000
Old Testament Translation	\$1,181,743
Coordinator for two years	\$ 150,000
Contingency	\$ 150,000

Project Sub-total \$4,236,443

Earlier Work on the Gospel of John, NT & OT \$ 402,200

Total Project Cost \$4,638,643

B&H portion of the cost \$3,865,548