

SEPTEMBER 2019

Hi praying friends!

Greetings from Ukarumpa, where it's been a very wet week, although it's amazing how fast the ground dries!

During August, I helped with a **Vernacular Pathways to English** course. *"What does that mean?"* I hear you say. Vernacular means "local" (or "village") language, and teachers were trained how to help students bridge from reading their own language, to being able to learn and read English. *"We love our own local language,"* they said, *"but we also want our children to learn English for their education. We were glad to have this course at Ukarumpa, because it strengthens our culture if our children learn to read the village language, and we find they then learn English much more quickly!"*



There were 22 teachers at the course, and I had a small group of 3, Vilens, Rooney and Josek (above), with whom I worked each afternoon for 3 weeks. They were trained to use Audioplayers, with exercises which they could play in English for them to use with their classes back in the villages.

On Sundays, I like to go out to one of the nearby village churches. Here's Pastor Rod Bafi, pointing to the cross and holding an AudioBible. He gave a wonderful message that morning, in Tok Pisin (Pidgin), about the sacrifice Jesus made for us on the cross. *"We are all sinners, guilty before God,"* he said, *"and the only way we can be made clean and be acceptable to God is by trusting in Christ, that he has died for us."* Good to hear the Gospel made so clear!



He was very happy for me to promote the AudioBible to his congregation with recorded Scriptures in the local Gadsup language. I noticed a big difference between the Pidgin and the local language in church. I understand Pidgin and so do the people, but some heads dropped down as they listened to the sermon in Pidgin. But then, when the pastor started to speak in Gadsup, they sat up, leaned forward, smiled, nodded, made agreeing sounds & really engaged when it was in their heart language. That encourages me to keep going with recording vernacular translated Scriptures!

Please keep supporting the AudioBible work. Each AudioBible costs about \$A40, but to make them affordable, we can only sell them for about \$A8. So we need over \$A30 for each unit we sell and that's at least one a day. You can help bring more smiles, and souls to Christ by your contribution. Thank you! Here's the link for you to use:

<https://wycliffe.org.au/projects/audio-bibles/> or try: wycliffe.org.au/ian/

Yours because His,

Uncle Ian



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PRAYER POINTS

- Praise for the 2 Kanite literacy teachers, Mick and Vilens, who attended the August Training Course and are now back teaching their classes.
- Pray for the production of more recorded material for the Kanite readers, especially for the digital production of a Scripture comic book on Jonah.
- Pray for the recording of the Binumarien New Testament to begin in September and for the 6 recorders coming into the recording studio, to work with technicians, Sakias and Fabian.
- Pray for the promotion of vernacular Scriptures, AudioBibles and free WiFi phone downloads at the Goroka Cultural Show, Sep 14-15.
- Pray that Sakias' hernia will not get worse prior to his operation on 10 October.