



MISSION 865

In God's Timing

2025 MISSION 865 ANNUAL REPORT

Reaching Everyone, Everywhere

This report provides updates on the Mission 865™ initiative you've funded through Jesus Film Project®. Celebrate what God has done through your generosity!

Jesus Film Project®
A Cru Ministry

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Some identifying details may have been changed throughout this report for confidentiality.



What Is Mission 865?

Mission 865™ is a Jesus Film Project® initiative to translate the *JESUS* film into the heart language of each people group with 50,000 or more speakers—and smaller languages as determined.

“And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.”

— Philippians 1:6, New Living Translation

A Journey of Faith

We are filled with hope as we approach these last miles of our Mission 865™ (M865) initiative. While challenges like the COVID-19 pandemic and staffing issues have delayed our progress at times, we continue to trust God, confident that His plan will prevail. We are now on track to complete the M865 language translations by the end of 2026!

Through prayer and perseverance, we've made extraordinary progress since we started on this journey of faith—accomplishing twice what should have been possible over the last decade. This remarkable progress is a testament to God's faithfulness and our innovative spirit—developing stronger partnerships with Bible agencies, creating better software tools to facilitate translation and scaling the translation process through multilanguage projects.

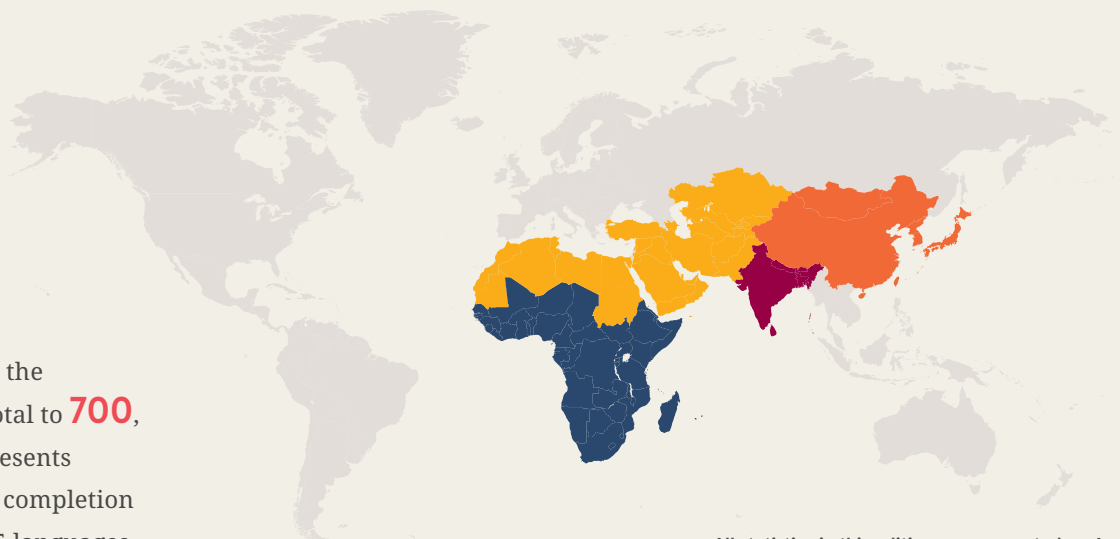
As we get closer and closer to our goal, we are encouraged by the lives already transformed by God's Word and the hope of even greater impact in the coming year. This report highlights encouraging statistics, inspiring information on language progress, and how God has shown up—bringing His supernatural hope and provision—at just the right time. Thank you for faithfully walking alongside us on this incredible journey, helping us work toward making the life-changing message of Jesus Christ available to every person in every language and opening doors for people everywhere to encounter His love.



Faithful Progress

We completed **41** M865 languages in 2024. So far in 2025, we've completed **14** M865 languages. The remaining **165** M865 languages are primarily located in the regions below, with the majority located in sub-Saharan Africa.

This brings the language total to **700**, which represents **80.92%** completion of the M865 languages.



All statistics in this edition were reported on April 30, 2025.



LANGUAGE
Confidential



LOCATION
A country in Southeast Asia



**WORLD
SPEAKERS**
75,000



**DATE
COMPLETED**
February 27, 2024

Remaining Country Languages to Complete: 0

God's Timing Unfolds

Waiting on Him

The speakers of this confidential M865 language hold a deep reverence for the natural world. They believe that spirits reside in the woods, rivers and mountains and that their survival depends on the spirits' favor. Because they rely on farming and hunting for their livelihood, these beliefs influence their daily lives. They need to know the true and living Savior who created all things. While a small number of speakers of this M865 language have come to faith in Christ, resources to help them grow in their relationships with Him have been scarce. The New Testament is available, along with audio Bible recordings, but beyond that there were no Christ-centered resources—until now.

God, in His perfect timing, has made a way for the *JESUS* film to be translated into this confidential language, providing a powerful tool to communicate His love. One man shared how watching *JESUS* online led him to confidently trust in God's plan for his life, despite disapproval from his family. He believes the film will help others experience the transformative power of Christ.

The journey to record this *JESUS* translation was not without challenges, especially with the communication barriers that made coordinating the recording process difficult. In those moments, the recordist of this project felt God asking her to be patient and wait on Him. The project then moved forward smoothly and without any further complications. Speakers of this M865 language, whose culture and beliefs are tightly bound to their identities, can now understand the life-changing power of Christ's love and the hope of transformation in their native tongue.



Prayer Point

Pray the speakers of this M865 language will be eager to hear and be transformed by the truth of God's Word in their heart language. May the film deepen their understandings of Christ's love and salvation, breaking down spiritual barriers.



During the recording process of this version of JESUS, the voice actors repeatedly emphasized that their people will love this film, as they enjoy watching movies in their own language. Others involved expressed similar sentiments, saying how thankful they are for this film and how it will be a blessing for the whole community.



LANGUAGE
Bouna Kulango



LOCATION
Côte d'Ivoire



**WORLD
SPEAKERS**
291,500



**DATE
COMPLETED**
November 7, 2024

Hope on the Horizon

Remaining Country Languages to Complete: 6

Through the Darkness

Recording teams dedicate significant time and effort in recording new language versions of the *JESUS* film to clearly communicate the gospel message. This work is especially important for language groups who have never heard the good news of Christ. For speakers of Bouna Kulango—an M865 language—this film provides an opportunity to encounter Christ's love, forgiveness and offer of eternal life in their own heart language.

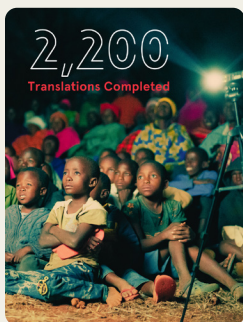


During the first review of the film, there were many big smiles and joyful laughs when the reviewers heard and recognized their voices.

Ibrahim—one of the voice actors for this film version and a follower of another religion—expressed how significant *JESUS* in Bouna Kulango could be for his people. Despite not speaking Bouna Kulango for a while and struggling with the correct words, Ibrahim was eager to participate in a film made for his people. He shared: **“When you are communicating with a person in the trade language or a language that they know, it is reaching their mind. When I am listening and speaking in my own language, it is reaching my heart.”**

Very few Bouna Kulango people in Côte d'Ivoire profess to follow Christ, while most practice traditional ethnic religions, seeking guidance from witch doctors and praying to the spirits of their ancestors. Because the customs of the Bouna Kulango include arranged marriages, many find themselves trapped in unions they did not choose, often leading to broken relationships and families torn apart.

In the warmth of God's grace, those who watch *JESUS* may finally see hope and forgiveness on the horizon. As the Holy Spirit works to open hearts and minds to the gospel, Bouna Kulango people who once felt distant from God may be drawn near to Him, finding peace and joy in becoming His children. In God's own timing, His plan unfolds, bringing light to those in darkness.



Celebrating a Milestone

The *JESUS* film remains the most translated film of all time. Over many years *JESUS* has become accessible to a global audience, allowing people from diverse linguistic backgrounds to experience the story of Christ in their native languages. ***JESUS* in Bouna Kulango marks the 2,200th translation.** Praise God!



Prayer Point

Praise God for the continued dedication and hard work of the recording teams who are faithfully recording the *JESUS* film in new languages, allowing people like the Bouna Kulango to encounter the gospel in their heart languages.



LANGUAGE
Confidential



LOCATION
South Sudan



**WORLD
SPEAKERS**
280,000



**DATE
COMPLETED**
February 14, 2024

Faith in the Waiting

Remaining Country Languages to Complete: 5

The Right Moment

In South Sudan, where over 70 languages are spoken, communication can be challenging without a common language, also known as a lingua franca. For many South Sudanese, English and this confidential M865 language serve as the lingua francas—and for some, this language is also their heart language. Many believers who speak this confidential language watched other versions of the *JESUS* film but longed to hear it in their language. The prayers of ministry workers were answered when the opportunity to record this M865 language version of the film arrived.



However, an unexpected issue prevented the Orlando recording team from making the scheduled trip, causing disappointment among South Sudanese believers. They called churches to pray for a breakthrough, and God made a way for the recording to proceed. This answer to their prayers sparked excitement among the churches, as one review committee member shared: “God is really an answered-prayer God. When the South Sudanese watch any other [local language] film, they are not satisfied, and they keep yearning for the film in their heart language. This is really a beautiful film ... for the Sudanese people.”

For years gospel resources in this confidential language were limited to portions of Scripture and brief audio recordings. The new film, with its accurate lip-synching, gave believers hope that the message would resonate with them, especially since most speakers of this confidential language follow religions other than Christianity. The review committee members were thrilled with the film’s quality, calling it “the best gift” they had received that year.

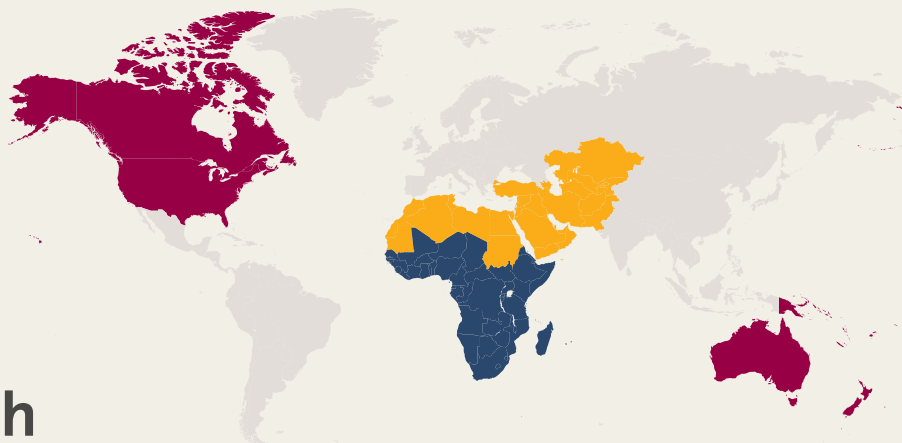
Bridging the Gap

A lingua franca, or trade language, is a language that is used as a common means of communication between speakers of different native languages. It facilitates interaction by serving as a bridge language that is understood by all parties involved, even if it is not their first language. Translating *JESUS* into this confidential trade language opened many doors for more language translations in South Sudan.



Prayer Point

Praise the Lord for providing a way for His story to be communicated more clearly, bringing hope to those eager to hear. May He use *JESUS* in this M865 language to help transform lives and cultivate a spirit of love and compassion in South Sudan.



Praying for the Final Stretch

As the end of our goal draws closer, we continue to seek God's guidance and provision to fulfill the vision, trusting that His timing will lead to significant breakthroughs. We've gathered prayer requests from various regions around the world, each representing unique needs and challenges. Praise God for all He's done through the M865 initiative, and ask Him for the endurance to press on and finish well.

"Wait patiently for the LORD. Be brave and courageous. Yes, wait patiently for the LORD."

— Psalm 27:14,
New Living Translation

Sub-Saharan Africa

- Pray for the recordings and film premieres of M865 languages in Côte d'Ivoire scheduled soon in 2025.
- Ask God for a great outpouring of His Spirit during the M865 recordings and among the people so that many will respond to the gospel message in their heart languages.
- Pray for local churches being trained in the *Knowing Jesus* curriculum to use clips of *JESUS* in these local languages to share the gospel more effectively.

North Africa, Middle East, Central Asia

- Pray for the *JESUS* film script that has been fully translated into an M865 language and is going through community checking before moving on to a consultant check. Pray for protection over everyone involved in this process.
- Ask God to make it clear which voice actors are the right fit for this M865 recording—and for the recording to be scheduled soon.
- Pray also for the logistics around recording a confidential M865 language in Central Asia.

North America, Oceania

- Pray for favor to overcome logistical and personnel obstacles for Pennsylvania Dutch (Amish), a remaining M865 language.



**“God’s way is perfect.
All the LORD’s promises
prove true. He is a
shield for all who look
to Him for protection.”**

— 2 Samuel 22:31,
New Living Translation

Thank You



We are so close to reaching the hearts of nonbelievers with the gospel message in every M865 language. Thanks to your support, millions of people all over the world are encountering the life-changing message of Christ. Though challenges may arise, we trust in God’s timing and direction, faithfully continuing down the path He has set before us. As we approach the final stretch, we want to thank you for your essential role in this eternal work!



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Published May 2025. Produced by Donor Reporting.