



a ministry of



Why Our Translation Projects Are Needed

The historic mission of The Urban Ministry Institute has centered on the spiritual needs of those who fit into the definition of “urban

poverty.” This focus on America’s inner cities has been World Impact’s legacy for over forty years.

As interest grew in TUMI’s *Capstone Curriculum* and our other resources for urban pastors and church leaders, something unexpected happened: Inquiries and interest began to come from a number of international locations.

Many of these were interested in languages beyond English and Spanish. Hence, our emphasis on language translation was born not out of clear-eyed strategy, but from the clear expression of need by Christians around the world. TUMI sees the parallel to the “Macedonian Call” model of Acts 16. (A man from Macedonia appeared to Paul in a vision and said, “Come help us.”)

We have seen intense interest in translation projects, such as our experience at the Global Proclamation Congress in Bangkok in June of 2016. It was there that we heard the following statistics:

- Only 5% of the world’s pastors have any formalized theological training at all. (This is, of course, very different from our North American situation.)
- If every Bible college and seminary operated at maximum capacity, after a three-year course of study that 5% figure would become 6%. Something needs to change!

Clearly, additional methods of theological education and training must be added to existing capacity. TUMI’s church-based approach to providing seminary-level resources is precisely directed at this need.

Since 2016 we have launched more than twenty translation projects of our prerequisite study called *Fight the Good Fight of Faith*, many of which are now complete. In 2017, we launched a project for the Telugu version of the much larger *Capstone Curriculum*. Romanian and Arabic translations are also under way, and we hope to add to that number in the coming months and years.

Our ongoing prayer is to be mindful of Macedonian Call contacts that come our way, and trust our Lord for the resources to meet those needs.



The Macedonian Call

And they went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. And when they had come up to Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. So, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

~ Acts 16.6-10 (ESV)