

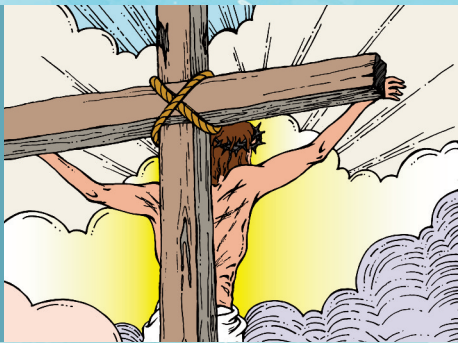
# Multi-Language Publications

## *Bringing the Word to the World*



## MLP updates

Developing culturally fitting material



### Working with local talent in East Asia

Multi-Language Publications (MLP) supports world mission fields with translations of existing English books into Chinese for training and outreach. A new initiative is underway to work with local writers and artists to develop culturally fitting materials with an appealing Asian flavor that will engage educated, young adults living in heavily populated cities throughout East Asia. The new materials are uniquely designed to reach an educated, urbanite demographic in new ways, but with the same saving message of the gospel.

MLP's East Asia coordinator is helping cultivate the local contributors as they write online devotions for social media, develop a discipleship series titled, "Living in Faith," and design complimentary illustrations for the series. Distributing the pure gospel becomes more urgent as East Asia's regulations and censorship of outside influences of Christianity grow tighter each day. MLP, along with WELS brothers and sisters in East Asia, are working together to create usable resources for future generations.

Working with local artists



"Living in Faith" discipleship series artwork by artist: Allie

### How can you help this important work?

- **Pray** for all of the staff and volunteers who help produce confessional Christian literature and other mass media to share with the world
- **Use** these materials yourself to reach out to your congregation, friends, and family
- **Share** the story about MLP and its goal to go and make disciples in many languages
- **Stay connected** through our printed, or online newsletter. Visit [wels.net/mlp](http://wels.net/mlp) to be added to our mailing list
- **Shop** for MLP products at [online.nph.net/mlp](http://online.nph.net/mlp)





Expanding social media



## More than one million followers

Multi-Language Publications (MLP) and WELS world mission field in Latin America are celebrating the three-year anniversary of the Academia Cristo online training and church multiplication program. By God's grace, Academia Cristo has more than one million followers on Facebook. The milestone is especially encouraging because it has led to connections with potential leaders that are looking to start churches in areas where there is no WELS presence. Academia Cristo is globally connecting Spanish-speaking men who, through the online program, will be equipped to start churches to faithfully proclaim

God's Word. WELS world missionaries and national pastors serve as mentors to the new group leaders while MLP assists in the production of biblically sound liturgy, worship and Bible study materials for use by the start-up house churches. The resources are available on the Academia Cristo website, while the Academia Cristo Facebook page ignites interest and sign-up for the online courses. This unique training method teaches Bible lessons and, at the same time, teaches students how to share the lessons, or any lesson from the Bible, with others.

WELS missionaries and Academia Cristo teachers recently met with 16 men in Latin America interested in further training, including leaders in five countries outside the current reach of WELS World Missions. The follow-up meetings with active online students are another way to offer continuing support for church multiplication in new areas around the world.

Developing new content



## Translator workshop to improve skills

Multi-Language Publications (MLP) is partnering with WELS World Mission's One Africa Team to provide an opportunity for translators to improve their skills. Those from Africa, Nepal, and India who seek training can attend the once-in-a-generation workshop from July 17 to 27, 2018. Dr. Ernst R. Wendland will conduct the ten-day workshop in Lusaka, Zambia.

Dr. Wendland has been serving in Zambia for 50 years as seminary professor and translation coordinator. As a member of the Zambia Bible Society, he has been involved with the

production of twelve different Bible translations. Translation is as much of an art as a science because no two languages convey concepts in exactly the same way. To illustrate, in John 3:16, the Greek New Testament literally says, "Thus indeed loved God the world that the Son the only begotten he gave that everyone believing in Him not should perish but might have life eternal." Is it possible to understand the meaning of this literal translation? Absolutely. Is this something that your seventh grade confirmation student will find easy to memorize, or for you to listen to on a Sunday morning? Not especially.

The coursework will include hands on practice of translating texts from English into local languages, as well as insights into simplifying English texts prior to translating them. One of the translators is a visually impaired woman from Ethiopia who is also fluent in Braille. Other translators are coming from Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Sudan, India, Nepal, Zimbabwe, Kenya, and Cameroon. There is great value in bringing translators together from various parts of the world so that they can share their experiences and insights into the translation process.

On the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit miraculously granted the apostles the ability to speak foreign languages. Although it takes great patience and determination to learn another language today, our attitude is the same as the apostles, "We cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20). As new listeners hear the gospel message proclaimed in their mother tongue, may the Holy Spirit add them to the number of people being saved.



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Multi-Language Publications is a program of WELS' Board for World Missions