

The Yasa of Cameroon and Eq. Guinea

Yasa villages live predominantly along the coastal plains. Most are fishermen. Women grow cassava and other staples to supplement their diet. Plantains and wild fruit are in abundance when in season.

The living fearing the dead — that’s what outsiders would conclude from the elaborate tombstones and explicit memorials surrounding older, plainer homes in a Yasa village. And the outsiders would be right, especially if they learn that these poor fisherman sometimes pay thousands of dollars to bury a loved one.

Church is primarily a social gathering place. Clergy sometimes perform exorcisms or other rituals to help protect believers from the evil spirits they so deeply fear. Few church members understand Christ’s work on the cross, and fewer still embrace the freedom and peace implicit in a relationship with the living Savior. Until now, churches have always used another language.

This small group has to know the language of their neighbors to survive. But it is their mother tongue that sinks deep into their being. Oral Bible Storytelling is a way to introduce them to the Gospel with an immediate impact while waiting to develop a writing system for Bible translation.



Primary Religion:

Christianity

Disciples (Matt 28:19):

6%

Churches:

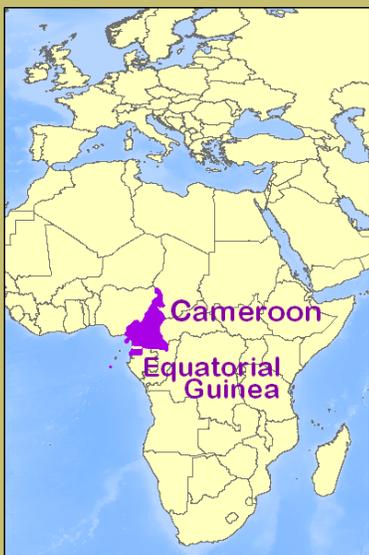
Yes

Scripture Status (Matt 28:20):

16 Bible Stories

Population (date):

1,490 (2000)



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Have They Heard The Gospel?

Is the Word of God Translated?

Yasa people have enjoyed oral Bible storytelling in their mother tongue, and they're eager for more. The Yasa team needs a little more help with developing a formal writing system for their complex language. The Yasa translators are eager to add more oral Bible stories to those already circulating among their friends.

How Have They Responded

The zesty flavor of God's Word in their own language has sharpened the appetite of the Yasa speakers. It follows the introductory work on the Oral Bible Storytelling.

Hindrances to Scripture Distribution

High cost of doing business in the country. Also government suspicion of outside organization.

Other Forms of Gospel Presentations

None.