

DANIEL'S STORY: SHARING GOD'S WORD IN KUKU

Daniel is a 13-year-old boy from the country of Uganda. While you might help your parents prepare meals or do chores, in the Kuku community, boys like Daniel help in other ways. They work with their families to grow food in the garden and sometimes hunt for wild animals to eat—antelope, warthogs, birds, and hares. When a hunt is successful, they celebrate with their friends by singing and dancing. For fun, kids also play a game where they hit fruit with a stick and run around.

→ Pronounced Koo-Koo.

And just like you, children and teenagers in Uganda learn through stories they tell at home, at school, and in church. But for most of Daniel's life, he couldn't read or hear Bible stories in his language. That's because these stories had never been translated into words that Daniel could understand. For Daniel, these stories didn't exist.

Sound like any sports you know? ←

→ What stories do you like to tell?

Then one day, Daniel's dad, who works as a pastor, was given the opportunity to help change that. Pastor Francis wanted his son to love God and get to know Him through the Bible. He also wanted it for other people in his church and community. Many Kuku people are Christians, but they didn't have understandable Scripture to help them grow in their love for Jesus. So Francis became a Bible translator. He studied God's Word in another language and translated it into Kuku, choosing words that would help Daniel and his people learn more about God.

→ NO Noah's ark, no David and Goliath, no baby Jesus.

→ Can you speak more than one language?

Today, Pastor Francis and his team are working hard to translate the New Testament. When a book of the Bible is finished, the translators share it with the people in their villages as soon as possible. When the New Testament is completed, it will be printed in a book so people can read it. It will also be audio recorded so that people can listen to it. That way Kuku kids can grow up learning about God like you.

Daniel loves God's Word. One time, after reading a chapter from the Kuku Bible, he wanted others to hear it too. He recorded a video of himself reading it and then posted it online. Other Kuku young people watched it, liked it, and commented on it. The video became popular!

→ It went viral!

Now other kids are joining Daniel in wanting to spend time learning what God says in the Bible so they can love Jesus more. Daniel's community is still years away from having every book of the Bible in their language. But thanks to translators like Daniel's dad, Kuku kids can now grow up hearing, reading, and understanding Bible stories...just like you!

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT!

- What do you think it would be like to grow up in Africa? What about Daniel's life sounds like yours? What sounds different?
- Imagine how it would feel to hear and understand words from the Bible for the first time. What do you think that would be like?
- Before Daniel read God's Word for himself, his dad worked to translate it for him. Who has helped you understand the Bible?
- Daniel loves the Bible and shares Scripture online. What can you do to grow in your own love for the Bible and share that love with others?

DIG DEEPER

Draw a picture of your favorite Bible story or record yourself reading or telling it. Share what you make with family or friends.

