

DAY 7: KUVALE *Angola*



ABOUT

- Survival in the southwestern corner of Angola is tough. The land is stony and arid, and the low rainfall and intense heat means that few crops grow. Most people survive through a nomadic lifestyle, leading their cattle from place to place in search of water.
- This barren land is the home of the Kuvale, a people group of about 70,000. The fight for survival has made them tall, strong, and proud; warriors ready to defend their cattle. Living isolated from the cities they have remained virtually illiterate, and almost totally untouched by Christianity.

THE TRANSLATION PROJECT

- The key to reaching the five language groups is story telling which will form the basis for written Scripture later on. A series of Bible stories will be orally crafted, but carefully translated and checked for consistency and accuracy. Stories will be memorized and taught and presented orally as soon as possible after production to expose people to God's Word
- Sebastião and his wife Kami have begun using chronological Bible storytelling to introduce Jesus amongst the Kuvale. Several times a week Sebastião visits different kraals, sitting with each family, telling stories, and using visual story boards.



STORY

It took three years for Sebastião to get permission from government and local officials to move into the area. It took him even longer to win the trust of the Kuvale themselves. Seeing the pride they had in their language and unique culture, Sebastião spent another four years as a learner. Slowly, over time, he learned the language and earned their trust. People invited him to their gatherings, and he began to understand their animistic worldview and many rituals. People are becoming increasingly interested in God's Word, and whole family clans sit together openly discussing his beliefs. A Kuvale man recently told him, "We have seen changes since you came here. Now there is less violence because of your teaching."

PRAYER

- Praise God for Sebastião and Kami who serve faithfully among the Kuvale. Pray for God's protection on their young family, and that their lives will be living testimonies of God's love for the Kuvale.
- Pray for the storycrafting workshops that have begun, and the telling of the initial stories in the culture over the next two to three years.
- Praise God, Sebastião has found an openness to discuss and learn from scripture shared in oral form. He says that, "the door is now open to the Kuvale people". He hopes as people hear his story they will be drawn to pray for the Kuvale people.