



Involved!

EVERY VERSE. EVERY TONGUE. EVERY HEART.

JUNE / JULY 2013

Good News From Wycliffe Associates



“It happened with your hands!”
With your help, more people now have
God’s transforming Word.

Wycliffe Associates
EVERY VERSE. EVERY TONGUE. EVERY HEART.

Aircraft Evacuates Child
Burn Victim

These Scriptures Could
Use a Little SALT

Internet Opens Door for
Scriptures in Hostile Areas

See story on page 5 . . .

See story on page 6 . . .

See story on page 8 . . .

Involved!

They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.

—Nehemiah 8:8 (NIV)

God's Manual for Life

"As Gamo people, when we buy an appliance, we immediately throw away the manual because we cannot understand it. Today we receive God's Manual for Life in the language we understand . . . a manual for marriage, parenting, evangelism, business, and relationships. Today we can move forward in our lives with God's instructions!"

—Ethiopian man upon receiving God's Word in the Gamo language



Cover photo courtesy of Elyse Patten

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Technology and You— Essential to Bible Translators

Dear Friends,

In recent years computer technology has played an increasingly important role in Bible translation. Drafting, editing, organizing, proofing, and checking Scripture are all simpler today because of improvements in translation software. Computer modems and Internet connectivity now allow file sharing, collaboration, and digital publishing to happen in minutes instead of months. On page 8 of this newsletter, you can read how computers are even enabling Bible translation to occur safely despite violence and opposition.

But what you won't read in this, or any, newsletter is how a translator received a freshly packaged computer through the mail, turned it on, and immediately became more efficient in his or her work. Despite the trend here toward stylishly packaged computer tablets with few keys and no instructions, the most vital link enabling Bible translators to put computers to effective use is a *person*—someone who meets them where they are and cares enough to patiently mentor them.

The airplanes, classrooms, and water systems that are providing essential support for Bible translation teams in Indonesia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Solomon Islands are testimony to the love and care that *you* have expressed for these communities through your service and stewardship.

It happened with *your* hands.

Thank you!



Bruce Smith
President/CEO



“Ale ku kona-a!” (“It happened with your hands!”)

More Ghanaians now have God’s Word, thanks to you.

Ghana

Prayer Connections

June 1–5

Pray for Andy as he travels to check Bible translations in Ghana and Nigeria. Also pray for his new role in helping to develop guidelines for new language cluster programs around the world. He asks for wisdom and insight in making connections with program leaders.

June 6–10

Kate is her mom’s right hand in helping with her father’s recent hospitalization and need for care placement. Pray for wisdom and grace for all.

June 11–15

Please pray for Kate and Andy as they speak about the needs of Bibleless people, that they will represent the Lord well.

June 16–20

Pray that Andy and Kate’s children, 10 in all, will blossom as trees of the Lord, flourishing wherever He plants them.

Nana Nketia, a village chief, showed up in all his pomp, his demeanor indifferent and standoffish. The gathering was to celebrate the 20 worship songs that Bible translator Andy Ring and his workshop participants had composed from the Lelemi New Testament. But the chief didn’t look like he was in a celebrating kind of mood.

The participants began singing, and slowly but surely the music started to affect the chief. First his toes started tapping. Then his fingers. And before he knew what had happened, the chief was smiling ear-to-ear and having a grand time.

When the celebration came to an end, the chief noted that it was the first time the Lelemi language had been used in worship. That impacted him greatly. Not long after this event, he took down all his shrines, came to church, and declared he wanted to follow Jesus Christ.

This is just one example of the fruit that has come out of the work of Andy and Kate Ring, who have been serving as Bible translators for over 25 years. Most of that time was spent in Ghana, where they translated the New Testament into the Lelemi language and trained many translators. And through their commitment, the last five Ghanaian New Testaments were dedicated.



Reverend Rhila, once a trainee, now training others in Bible translation.

Photo courtesy of Andy Ring

Today, the Rings are serving in Nigeria, where over 300 languages are still without Scripture. Through your support, Wycliffe Associates is deploying Bible Translation Acceleration Kits (BTAKs) in Nigeria to provide translators with seamless online communication with consultants and other translators. According to Andy, “the BTAKs have cut translation checking time in half.”

He took down all his shrines, came to church, and declared he wanted to follow Jesus Christ.

Andy says, “Ale ku kona-a!” In the Lelemi language this means, “It happened with your hands!” From Ghana to Nigeria, Bible translation progresses because your hands have joined other hands to bring God’s life-changing Word to those still without it. ||||



Photo courtesy of Wycliffe UK

Your Gifts at Work, Accelerating Bible



Photo courtesy of Wycliffe Canada

You Are a Special Encouragement to Translators in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

As spiritual battle rages in the region, Bible translators are heartened by the facilities you helped renovate.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has been a stronghold of Satan for centuries. Plagued by war, the United Nations has estimated that some 5 million people have died as a result of the fighting.

National Bible translators in the DRC are no strangers to Satan's attacks. Family members often discourage them from continuing because of the danger they put themselves in by choosing to translate the Scriptures. Yet these dedicated translators press on, knowing that God's message of love and peace is the *country's only hope*. And your prayers and support are a huge blessing to them.

Through your kind support, over the last year Wycliffe Associates has sent volunteer teams to Isiro to renovate offices, meeting rooms, classrooms, a library, a security wall, and housing—all to help accelerate translation efforts. In addition, solar power and Internet access have been provided, which has greatly improved efficiency.

Thank you for being a great source of encouragement for Bible translators who are serving amid the harshest of circumstances.



The newly remodeled facilities in Isiro have bolstered translation efforts as well as the spirits of national translators.



Photos courtesy of Denny Noble

e Translation and Transforming Lives



Photo courtesy of Tim Harold

The Pilatus PC-6 aircraft you helped purchase transports Bible translators on the island of Papua, Indonesia—one of the most remote, rugged, and hard-to-travel areas we serve.

To the Rescue . . .

Aircraft evacuates child burn victim for emergency medical care.

Pilots Jeffron Sohilit and Nate Gordon were dropping off missionaries in the village of Daboto when the emergency call came over the radio.

A young girl had suffered severe burns and urgently needed medical attention. While sleeping, she had rolled over into the fire that her family used to stay warm during cold nights.

Jeffron and Nate quickly charted a course for the Pilatus PC-6 aircraft and

made a beeline to the girl's village of Iratoi. They then airlifted her to another village, where she got the treatment and care she would need to recover.

Because airplanes are crucial to advancing Bible translation in this island nation where some of the most isolated people on earth live, an additional Pilatus PC-6 airplane was delivered to ministry partners in Papua through the support of generous partners like you. In some areas, travel by any other means would be dangerous, even deadly. How wonderful that the planes also can be used occasionally to rescue little girls in need of urgent medical aid!



Photo courtesy of Nate Gordon

Solomon Islands Training Center: The Rest of the Story

Since the center's completion, your support has resulted in powerful translation workshops and an audio version of the Wala New Testament. Oh, and did we mention the water?

Friends like you made the completion of the Solomon Islands Translation Training Center possible. Since that time God has used the center to accomplish wonderful things, and we want to share some of them with you.

Over 50 nationals are benefiting from monthly Bible translation and literacy workshops. And to aid in literacy, an audio version of the Wala New Testament has been recorded. The island people listen as they follow along in their Bibles. What better way to learn how to read?

With your help, Wycliffe Associates also upgraded the water system at the center. One of the great challenges in the past was a lack of water. But through Operation Clean Water, we redesigned and installed new water collection and storage tanks that catch rainwater and store it for the dry season.

Thank you again for partnering with us so people of the Solomon Islands can read and hear about God's love in their heart language.

Twenty new translators benefit from a Translation Principles workshop at the training center. Three are from languages without one word of Scripture in their mother tongue.



Photo courtesy of Steve Martin



Photo courtesy of Greg Conwell

These Scriptures Could Use a Little SALT

With a freshly translated New Testament, the Marik people are hungry to learn.

Papua New Guinea

The small church structure was virtually bursting at the seams. People just kept pouring in—so many, in fact, that the organizers had to bring in bamboo logs for additional seating. Latecomers were left standing outside, craning their necks to sneak a peek through a door or window. The source of all the excitement? SALT.

This is not the food seasoning, but a Scripture Application and Leadership Training course for the Marik people in the Madang province of Papua New Guinea. The two-week course came on the heels of the Marik New Testament's completion last summer at the Ukarumpa National Training Center, which was built through support of generous friends like you.

On the second day of the course, the crowd had grown so large that men in the village quickly built a roof extension to provide shade for the 100 people who



Photo courtesy of Marian Sikkema

Symbolizing their commitment to a changed life, hundreds of villagers spell out HOLY at the Scripture Application and Leadership Training (SALT) course.

Some of the women shared how they now feel valuable because they know they were created in God's image.

were outside in the heat.

The impact of the SALT course on the participants was amazing. One after another openly shared how the Scriptures have transformed their lives. One man told of his decision to trust God alone. Some of the women shared how they now feel valuable because they know they were created in God's image. Many villagers wrote their sins down on paper and then burned them as a sign of their commitment.

Thank you for being salt and light and for your commitment to help bring God's translated Word to a hurting world. ||||

Prayer Connections

June 21–25

Pray that the Marik people will trust God fully, honor their decisions to follow only Him, and live holy lives.

June 26–30

Pray that the SALT participants continue to bring truth and light into their communities, choosing to glorify God with their lives.

July 1–5

Pray that those caught in sin and darkness will repent from adultery, sorcery, and calling on spirits to help them.

July 6–10

Pray that the Marik New Testament will continue to touch the hearts of the Marik people and bring transformation. (See below photo for dedication.)



Photos courtesy of Tim Scott



PROGRESS REPORT

Sign Up Today to Receive eCommunications!

Stay abreast of the latest volunteer opportunities, urgent prayer requests, and other important Bible translation



news. Go to www.wycliffeassociates.org, click the "Contact Us" link, and choose the online communications you would like to receive:

- eInvolved!** (quarterly electronic newsletter)
- eOpportunities** (latest volunteer opportunities)
- ePrayer** (weekly ministry prayer requests)



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Follow Bruce's blog, *Language of the Heart*, at www.brucesmith.wycliffeassociates.org.

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Volunteers Needed

Your life never will be the same after a hands-on experience in the world of Bible translation. Go to www.wycliffeassociates.org today to learn about new volunteer opportunities, team trips, and more—all to impact lives as you help accelerate Bible translation!

Work in Progress/Funding Still Needed

Bible Translation Acceleration Kits

(Satellite communications) for Bible translators located in:

- Angola
- Brazil
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Ethiopia
- Guatemala
- India
- Indonesia
- Madagascar
- Mexico
- Nigeria
- Papua New Guinea
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Zambia

- Cameroon: Bamenda Bible Translation Training Center
- Dem. Rep. of the Congo: National Bible Translation Training Center
- India: Wycliffe Institute of Languages and Linguistics
- Indonesia: Indonesia airplane hangar
Indonesia: Pilatus PC-6 airplane, No. 2
- Nigeria: Nigeria Bible Translation Office expansion
- Papua New Guinea: Air Services Project
Airstrip Repair Project
Alotau Translation Training Center
National staff housing renovation
National Training Center
New Ireland Translation Institute
- Sensitive Countries: Scriptures for New Frontiers
- Tanzania: Mbeya Cluster Translation Project
- Timor: Timor Bible Translation Center
- Worldwide: Operation Clean Water
Operation Timothy (digital Scriptures)

Work/Funding Completed

- Africa: Deaf Opportunity Outreach Translation and Training Center
- Cameroon: Rain Forest International School
- Indonesia: Pilatus PC-6 airplane, No. 1
- Papua New Guinea: Water Supply Project
- Peru: Literacy and Linguistics Training Center
- Solomon Islands: Solomon Islands Translation Training Center

Visit www.wycliffeassociates.org for updates on these projects.

Internet Opens Door for Scriptures in Hostile Areas

“He [God] has compelled me to leave my polluted life.”

Operation Timothy



Photo courtesy of iStock

I will praise You with an upright heart as I learn Your righteous laws.

—Psalm 119:7 (NIV)



Photo courtesy of iStock

How does one publish a Bible in a country where Christianity is unwelcome or even outlawed? *Operation Timothy.*

Through your support, Wycliffe Associates is joining forces with a ministry partner to rapidly publish the Bible in digital formats as soon as they are translated. Named *Operation Timothy*, this effort is being launched in countries where there are restrictions on the possession, sale, and printing of God’s Word.

The timing couldn’t be better. The dramatic growth of Internet access and cell phones has opened a huge, new door through which people can be reached with digital Scriptures in their heart language. It is projected that in two years, 90 percent of the households in the *Operation Timothy* countries will have access to a high-quality mobile device that will allow them to download text, audio, and video files of the Bible.

“I printed off the whole Bible online,” shared one grateful web surfer. “There are no other possibilities to get one in this far-off place. There is no church for me to attend and no spiritual father to share the pains of my heart. I spent 25 years being lost.”



Field Photo

Your partnership is helping to make God’s life-changing Word available on computer or cell phone to people in volatile areas who do not have access to printed Scriptures.

It’s now been one year since I became acquainted with Christ. In the path of knowing Him, He has compelled me to leave my polluted life.”

“I spent 25 years being lost.”

On behalf of people like this man who are desperate for God’s Word and long to know Him in a deep and personal way, thank you. ||||

Wycliffe Associates

EVERY VERSE. EVERY TONGUE. EVERY HEART.

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(1-800-843-9673)



Prayer Connections

July 11–15

Please pray that the Holy Spirit would draw people to Internet sites where they can read, many for the first time, about the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ.

July 16–20

Pray for those who are hard at work behind the scenes to make the Scriptures available online where the printed Word is forbidden.

July 21–25

Pray for those living in hostile areas to find comfort and peace in God’s life-changing Word.

July 26–31

Pray that as more and more remote areas have access to Scripture on their phones and computers, lives would be transformed and God’s truths would be shared with others.