

Dear Praying Friends and Family,

Answered Prayers....Scripture Translation Evaluation Report!

This time last month we asked for prayers as we were getting prepared for a Scripture translation evaluation. We are very pleased to report that the check went very well. Just getting his feet wet in the translation procedures, Levi had 2 post-literacy stories checked as well as 125 verses of Scripture. Our co-worker, Dan, had approximately 800 verses of Scripture checked as well. In fact, the evaluation ended 2 ½ days early as not a lot of adjustments and changes or explanations needed to be made! Praise the Lord for the men that he has given us as a team to work with in this process for this even to be a reality!

The next steps are to do a final grammar and punctuation check on these verses and then we can prepare to print some scripture booklets. We are very excited to be able to get some printed Scripture into the hands of the believers here, Lord willing in the coming months. Our prayer is that this will be an encouragement to them as they are able to have God's Word in their hands, in their language. We are also praying that having printed Scripture booklets will encourage the literacy program as people see the validity of reading the printed Word. *(If there are any VBS, Sunday School groups, etc., that are looking for a special project, perhaps you might consider helping with the printing costs for these Scripture Booklets. There is a special fund set up for these specific needs. Contact us for more information if you're interested in helping in this way.)*



Fantastic Firsts...

The evaluation time was even more special to us as one of the Consultants (In-Training) has played a role in the story of Levi's life in leading him into this ministry in the first place. We have included an excerpt from her update below:

In my last update, I mentioned that I was headed up to the highlands to participate in my first translation check on the consultant side of the table. What a privilege to be a part of it! Two of the team members were having Scripture portions from the Old and New Testament checked. For Levi, it was his first check. He had recently finished language and culture acquisition so this was his first step into translation. What was pretty cool to me is that when I worked with Destination SUMMIT, NTM's short-term program, I was part of the team that prepared him for his first mission trip to South America and then helped with his debriefing at the end of it. Then in visits to our Bible school, I saw him there – growing and maturing into a neat young man. And here we are all these years later and I was part of his first translation check! What an incredible privilege! He and his Welsh coworker, Dan had done such a great job that our jobs as consultants were easy. It was so neat to see how well their translation was communicating to the tribal people! The Lord has equipped and enabled these two men to communicate clearly in a previously unwritten tribal language – pretty cool, eh?! So praise the Lord with me for more Scripture available in this tribal language. (~Lisa Kappeler, Wabaku)

(Something I thought was neat as it just hit me, is that while we had all of you praying for us from our point of this ministry, she had all of the hundreds of Prayer Warriors that she is connected to praying from her point of the ministry. What an amazing reminder that we are bathed in prayer!) ~**Thank You for “Holding the Ropes”!**

Praise for the Promptings of the Lord...

On Friday as our co-workers were preparing to leave for their home assignment, Dan felt the prompting of the Lord to go and see his main translation helper, Casper, one more time before they left. Casper is one of the believer's here and because of how the Lord has used him through the years, he has been the direct resource for most all of the Bible lesson and Scripture translation process thus far with Dan's portions that he has completed. He has been vital to this ministry and to his own people one day being able to receive the Word of God in their heart language. When Dan arrived at Casper's house he found him in his bed very ill, severely dehydrated and close to death.

Dan was able to get Casper admitted to the local hospital, put on I.V. and has begun to receive care and treatment. We hear that he is on the road to recovery for which we are so thankful to the Lord for how He chose to answer our immediate prayers on his behalf. A little more background on Casper, several years ago he was injured in rugby game and has suffered permanent paralysis as a result. In addition to the paralysis he has also suffered long-term bowel & intestinal problems. Our continued prayers are for his complete recovery from the illness and dehydration that he has been suffering from as well as that during this time in the hospital the doctors might be able to figure out possible causes and even treatments for his other long-term health issues also. He has been a testimony to us in how the Lord chooses to use the “weak things of this world to confound the wise.” We are so thankful for Casper and he is a very dear friend, co-worker, and brother-in-Christ.



Casper

Fish Bones...

Another praise for our gracious Heavenly Father's oversight on our families behalf. While eating some fish on Saturday night, Daniel, our 5 ½ year old ended up getting a fish bone stuck horizontally across the back of his throat. After a failed attempt at removing it, seeing that Daniel was getting more worked up and fearful, we were able to take him to our mission clinic where the doctor was able to remove it. No more bony Barracuda for this family!



Freedoms...

July is the month that we, Americans, celebrate our independence and celebrate the many freedoms that we have as a nation. Living overseas, has possibly made us even more patriotic and appreciative of what those freedoms actually mean to us along with gaining a renewed sense of respect for the original intent of the forefathers of our country being established with Biblical morals & values and a Christian heritage. It has been fun for me being able to re-learn many of these simple truths that have been overshadowed through the years. I have been able to teach our boys about their American heritage and history. We love the wonderful opportunity of being able to live here in this beautiful country of Papua New Guinea. While it also brings continual reminders to us of how much we, ourselves have taken for granted the many facets of the freedoms that we have as Americans in our own country and grieves us when we hear of further moral decay that our nation has taken as many have sought to remove God and the biblical principles from our society. What an excellent opportunity it has been and will be for us to teach our children their heritage from a biblical worldview.

Prayer Points:

- Pray for Casper's recovery.
- Pray for our co-workers:
 - o the Hulley family as they are in the air as we send this, en-route to their home country of Wales! For safety in travel and for all of the transitions and travel that lie ahead of them this year.
 - o The Wilson family as they continue to seek answers and proper treatment for Nelli's health concerns.
 - o Pray that this will be a time for both families in which they can be encouraged, refreshed, as well as bringing awareness to the work among the North Wahgi people and challenging others for the Great Commission!
- Praise God for a good Scripture translation evaluation!
- Pray for Robyn as we are nearing the beginning of another school year and she will resume home school with the boys.
- Pray that God would continue to draw the hearts of the North Wahgi to Himself and that the believers would be faithful in coming to the teaching to receive their 'spiritual food'. We will be out of the village for a little while, so pray that the believers would not fall prey to the wolves, but rather this would be a time of growth for them and that they would stick together and gain support from one another.

- Pray for our New Tribes Mission Aviation department here in PNG as they are experiencing a large shortage in personnel which in turn has an effect on all of the tribal church planting works as well.

Thank you so much for your part in this ministry through prayer, encouragement, and sacrificial giving. We could not be here without you!

At His Service and For His Glory,<><

Levi, Robyn, Michael, Daniel, and Matthew Lenz

Serving among the North Wahgi

With New Tribes Mission