



The WAM Report

From **Wendy And Mike Buchanan**
Serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators in computing at the JAARS Center

June 2009

How does one pray for 10 days at a Reflection and prayer retreat??

Over 40 staff and participants attended this event that offered them time to pray, reflect on God and His Words to them and also prepare them to lead similar retreats when they return to their places of service. People came from as far as Asia, Africa and the Pacific. I, Wendy, only traveled one hour by car! The setting allowed people to spend uninterrupted time with the Lord and process things like a new assignment or find refuge from the stresses of working in a country in political turmoil.

One day, I was seeking to hear from the Lord and praising him along with some CD's I was listening to and He very clearly spoke to me ...how do I know it was Him? Because they were words that I have never thought of before and they came to me at a time when I needed to hear them. In a still small voice God said to me, "I want to be enough for you." I knew what He was saying...He wants me to look to Him for my significance, not to a ministry I may be doing at the time. God desires that I believe the truth that I am complete in Him, accepted, and worthy of His time and attention instead of looking to those around me for their validation that I am worthy. It has been easy for me to know God as Lord and Savior, but I desire to know His presence more daily and to know Him as my friend, to take delight in Him. I am so thankful that time and time again, He continues to pursue a relationship with me.

July 17- 29 Trip to Pennsylvania & Maryland

In just a few weeks we will be visiting the friends and churches in Pennsylvania and Maryland. We will be visiting New Covenant Baptist Church in State College, PA on July 19th and Zion United Methodist Church in York, PA on July 26th. We will also be visiting family and friends in Cumberland Maryland, Pittsburgh and Washington DC. Due to our assignment in Cameroon last year, it has been more than 4 years since visiting the Pennsylvania area. We are looking forward to seeing you all. If you would like to get together while we are in the area, we would love to see you!

Wendy and Mike
Buchanan

We praise God for:

- provision for all our needs and for good health.
- the successful completion of the school year for David & Elizabeth

Please pray:

- for Direction for Wendy as she processes what she learned at the prayer retreat and how she might use it to minister to fellow missionaries.
- for Increased financial support to meet the higher cost of living here in the U.S.A.
- that we may delight ourselves in the Lord more.

Training anytime-anywhere -

That is what Mike helps to offer through Wycliffe's on-line training sites

The training sites are allowing people anywhere in the world with an internet connection to connect with each other in new ways.

This past winter, a linguistic course on Syntax was offered on-line. About 15 people took the course. Nothing amazing in that, except that the professor was in England and the students were all half-way around the world in a country which is difficult for foreigners to enter. Through the training site, the teacher was able to post lectures and assignments for the students to watch and do. The students could submit their assignments and the professor could grade them and communicate with the students via built-in chat rooms and message boards. These linguistic students now have new skills which they will be able to use in the Bible translation process.

Another use of the site involves all new members to Wycliffe who must go through orientation classes held in Orlando. There is a lot of information to cover and it can be overwhelming. But with our training site, new members can begin to get to know one another, interact with their teachers, and do reading and writing assignments even before they arrive in Orlando. They are better prepared and more relaxed as they are equipped for their roles with Wycliffe.

A key component of Vision 2025, seeing a Bible translation started in all languages needing it by the year 2025, is training people to do the necessary tasks such as translation, literacy and project management. While not all of the training can be done on-line, I'm excited to see more trainers exploring the possibilities.

My role as administrator includes keeping the sites running smoothly, and answering teacher and student questions. In addition, I'm currently taking several courses relating to on-line instructional design. My goal is to learn how to help teachers create engaging, useful courses. The challenge is to structure the courses in such a way that people from various cultures will feel comfortable taking the class and will come away from the course with the training they need to help in the task of Bible translation.

Did you know...

- Michael is manager of the JAARS pool on top of his other roles here at JAARS.
- We are parents of a teenager as of May 14th!
- Elizabeth loves making charts and organizing fun days with friends!
- David will spend one week at Boy Scout Camp this summer June 28-July 5th.



David "Lumiere" and Elizabeth "Madeline girl" from their spring drama production.

"The greatest missionary is the Bible in the mother tongue. It never needs a furlough, and is never considered a foreigner." -- Cameron Townsend - founder of Wycliffe Bible Translators

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*Your partners in
Bible Translation,
Mike + Wendy
David & Elizabeth*

For financial contributions, please send checks to Wycliffe Bible Translators at the address below. Include a separate note indicating "for the ministry of Mike and Wendy Buchanan." You can also donate online at www.wamplus.org. Thank you!

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