



Lutheran Bible  
Translators

# Proclaim to Every Nation

The Plugers in Ethiopia

February 2022

## Back in Ethiopia

When we were writing our last newsletter, we weren't sure how the conflict in Ethiopia would develop. Before that newsletter was in your mailboxes, Janine and I were back in the US to watch things develop from a little safer distance.

We got to see lots of family and friends, including Thanksgiving in Colorado and Christmas in Atlanta, while we waited for things to stabilize.

God answered the prayers of His people! We were able to return to Ethiopia on January 1st.

We are thankful for the ability to continue language learning through technology, and that our absence from the field was short. We are even more thankful that God protected our home, friends, and partners.

We are looking forward to being able to explore the country and culture more, now that the state of emergency is over. Thank you for your prayers!



## Teaching

Our goal in Ethiopia is to help the Church here develop the capacity to carry out Bible Translation work on their own. Part of that work is helping to train the next generation of Bible translators and advisors at the college level.

At the very end of last semester, Chris was able to help teach an intensive course entitled *Discourse Analysis for Bible Translators*. This class looked at the various genres found in Scripture (stories, letters, proverbs, songs, poems, sermons, etc.) and helped translators use the literature of their own language as a model to produce beautiful and natural genre-sensitive translations of the literature of Scripture.

This semester, Chris is teaching *Practicum of Bible Translation*, the capstone course for the senior Bible Translation students. This class will focus on practical applications of the theory and skills that the students have been developing over the past four years. He is also advising some BT students on their graduation theses.

It is exciting to be working in the early stages of a program that will, by God's grace, produce many highly-trained Ethiopian translators and translation advisors who can continue BT work for generations to come.

## Our Mission

*Millions of people don't have the Bible in a language they understand. Lutheran Bible Translators partners with individuals, organizations, and language communities to put God's Word in their hands.*

## Prayers

- For our language learning.
- For Chris' students and their future translation work.
- For wisdom and faithfulness for Sean in a time of transition.
- For Janine's family at the loss of her brother-in-law.

*Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to **proclaim** to those who live on the earth—to **every nation, tribe, language and people.***

—Revelation 14:6

## The harvest is plentiful

Of Ethiopia's 85 languages, only ten have a complete Bible (Old and New Testament). Right now, over twenty translation projects are going on across the country as Christians work hard to bring the Word of God into the languages that their people know best.

A friend of mine was discussing the exciting privilege of Great Commission work — the work of teaching and making disciples — with a man named Isaac. She writes:

"In explaining how this work contributes to the expansion of God's kingdom, Isaac stretched his hands to both sides, a common gesture to show something big or wide."

Thank you for partnering with us in our Great Commission ministry!

## "New Flower"

We live in a beautiful city! Addis Ababa ("New Flower" in Amharic) is the capital of Ethiopia and is home to over 5,000,000 people. It sits in the mountains at about 7,700 feet above sea level — higher than Colorado Springs. This gives us a perfect spring-like climate all year round. The rainy season is from June to September, but even if you come to visit us then, there will be plenty for you to see and do!



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