

Consulting for Christ

Enabling Bible Translation in Ethiopia

September 1, 2022

New Missionaries in Ethiopia

Wow! The number of Lutheran Bible Translator missionaries here in Ethiopia more than doubled in August (if you count the kids!). We are thrilled to welcome Paul and Ali Federwitz to Ethiopia, their three children Hannah, Levi, and Eden, and Deanne Gochanour.

Paul is the new Programs Director here for the work that LBT is involved in. He will also continue to be involved in the International Program Ministries Department. Ali is the Member Care coordinator for LBT missionaries globally. Deanne is teaching Kindergarten at Bingham Academy, where the Federwitz children are attending school.

Please thank God with us for their arrival, and pray for their continued adjustment to Addis Ababa.



From left: Eden, Ali, Paul, Hannah, Levi, and Deanne

Project Brief Workshops

Translation projects have much in common, but each project is also unique. The language, culture, religion, geography, climate, economy, history, the organizations involved, and many other factors all can affect how the project is organized, and how effective particular activities are. For each project, it is

important for all of the partner organizations working on a project to have a clear idea of what they are agreeing to do together and how that work will be done.



During July, I helped with two workshops for seven different translation projects. We helped the teams begin to develop project briefs, which are the plans for each project that all of the partners are agreeing to. We hope that this will help the projects be successful in their goal of getting God's Word used by their people.

Consultant Checking

The Tsamakko team continues to make impressive progress. From August 15-26, we checked over their translations of Titus, Philemon, James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, and Jude. The team is hoping to have all of the New Testament translation finished during 2023 (with final editing in 2024). Pray for them as they push to reach this goal.

During our work time together, we also got to inaugurate the translation floor in the new Helges Center that was just completed. We hope to move our office there during September.

When a translation uses a good figure of speech, it can make the translation more interesting and help the message to better reach its target. During our time working together, I noticed that the Tsamakko team used one figure of speech that made me smile.

1 Peter 4:15 says, "But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler." (ESV). According to a note in the NET Bible, the last word in the verse likely means "busybody, one who meddles in the affairs of others, troublesome meddler."

I laughed when I saw the Tsamakko translation: "one who goes to people's things like the fly of rainy season."



Pray...

- ➔ Pray for wisdom for the country's leaders, and for a peaceful resolution to the conflict in the northern part of the country.
- ➔ Praise God for the completed books in the Tsamakko translation. Pray for energy, wisdom, and guidance for the team as they work hard to complete the New Testament by the end of 2023.
- ➔ Pray for smooth adjustments to life here for Deanne and Paul and Ali and their family. Pray for them as they begin to learn the Amharic language.
- ➔ Pray for wisdom for Paul as he takes up the leadership of LBT's work here in Ethiopia. Pray for guidance and insight as old projects are evaluated and new work planned.



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