

***The Word of God -  
In their hands  
and upon their hearts  
Weber - LBT Cameroon Prayer Letter  
February 2024***

**God Answers Prayer!**

Dear Partners in Prayer,

*2023 was a year with many prayers answered!*

- **God's Provision** through you and others for both prayer and financial support, making our two trips to help in Cameroon possible. **Thank you!**
- The **Subula translators**, after devastating news at the end of 2022, saw God's hand helping them to continue working to translate the Bible into their language. Below is the testimony shared by **Pastor Allen** (pictured), as we translated and edited it:



"We were devastated! In late 2022, we had just learned that Elliot, our LBT missionary who had begun training us, would not be coming back after their furlough. We were really troubled! But we told ourselves to **turn our faces toward the Lord in prayer**.

So we got right to it, all six of us translators and the four literacy workers, we earnestly fasted and prayed. **And God answered!** Very quickly! Without much delay, even though at this time we were told that it was nearly **impossible** to have a new missionary couple come to support and train us, that getting a missionary family to join a translation project is not like picking available fruit off a tree. It is a long process for a missionary to be found, trained, assigned, to raise their support, and then be sent out.

But God answered our prayers! Soon after we prayed, a new missionary couple was found!

We were so excited to welcome Pastor Tim and Erin Schulte when they came to visit us for a few days last March! They went back to the US, but will return later in 2024.



In between times God has still not left us alone. **The Weber couple has come to encourage and to be with us. All this is part of God's answer to our prayers. So we are really thanking God!**

The Subula translation work has not stopped or slowed down, rather it has gone ahead with the same rhythm and intensity as when the missionary was with us. The Lord has continued to hold us up, right to this day!"



*The Subula translators in their village*

• **Subula Literacy classes are progressing**

When we first met the four Subula literacy workers last February, they urgently wanted to complete their reading lesson booklets to teach their people to read their language. (They had begun these books with Serena Derricks, who could not return to help complete them.) So I (Joan) helped them to complete trial copies of their books in their two dialects.

Back in November, I worked with them again. I inserted their corrections into the computer program and we added a few of their riddles. Then we had their books printed! They are already using them in courses in several of their villages.



## TRANSLATORS' CONFERENCE



I (Martin) was pretty discouraged. The Translators' Conference that I had been planning and developing for nearly a year looked like it would not happen. I came to a

place where I surrendered it to God in prayer: "Okay, if this conference really is Your plan for this time and place, make it happen. If not, I surrender it."

God did make it happen! Ten translators from five language groups participated in the Translators Conference for Cameroonian Bible Translators. The translators work with a powerful specialized translation software tool called ParaText. It helps them translate more accu-

rately and consistently. LBTC missionary Pastor Mike Kuhn gave an example of sharing one of the features of ParaText, and all benefited. Then more experienced translators mentored other translators. Significant progress was made.

I also shared several "pitfalls for translators", exposing attitudes and practices which I have found to be detrimental in our decades of Bible Translation experience.

At the end of our week together, they expressed how helpful it was for them, and asked for more such conferences. Subula and other translators want to learn how to do better exegetical studies of the Scriptures before translating, to ensure accuracy to the original languages. The Subula translators and others asked for a Translation Principles course — which I and my colleague Pastor Touka am more than eager to plan and lead!



## THANK GOD for:

**His faithfulness to us in providing for us** through many challenges and travels this last year!

**The national church leaders, translators and literacy teachers** working for God's Word for their people.

### Please pray with us for:

**Wisdom and encouragement** for the Cameroonian translators and literacy workers.

**The Schultes** as they prepare for ministry among the Subula people in Cameroon.

**Continuing health and strength** for us.

**God's Word to go forward** in the languages of the peoples, and also here, **that many may hear, understand and receive the gift of Life in Jesus!**

The main message they took away was **the importance of prayer** — for their translation work as well as their personal and family lives. **We are also very thankful for you and your prayers!**

We are back home in New Hampshire since mid-January, adjusting to winter and life back here. We plan to continue from here to follow up with some projects in Cameroon.

**We are also planning a third trip back to Cameroon later this year.** When the Schultes are ready to go, we plan to help them to get started in Cameroon. *Thank you for being with us in our ongoing mission.* May God's peace and blessings be with each of you!

In His Peace and Love,  
Martin and Joan Weber

*Martin & Joan Weber*

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