

Joel & Gia's Africa Update: Madagascar

October 2025



Dear brothers and sisters,

One month of marriage is now in the books! It's my favorite month all time. Want to know more about Gia? Here she is to tell you what has made her into the amazing person she is today:

Hi y'all,

I was first introduced to Africa when I was a quite small. My parents moved me and two of my siblings to South Africa twice, when I was 5 & 7. While we didn't end up staying on the field long term, it planted a seed in my heart. Life in Africa and reading missionary stories—including Bible translators!—are some of the earliest things I can remember. Fast forward to 2023, I got involved with prayer ministry and evangelism. I did a prayer course in the UK, and ended up going on a trip to Kazakhstan to train churches in prayer ministry. I also got re-involved in missions in South Africa, where we did outreach events in the same area I lived as a kid.

When I met Joel, I was praying about going overseas long-term after I finished my accounting degree, but the Lord hadn't made it clear yet on timing and which country. Obviously, I fell in love with Joel, so now I know the location. 😊

Currently, enjoying married life! I am in the last semester of my accounting degree. I serve on the altar prayer team at church, get to hold babies on Wednesdays, and help at the healing room in a local mall. It is all so great! My cup is always filled with JOY when I see people encounter Jesus's love for them in prayer. ☺

In the Corpus Christi area, we've already been able to share about Bible translation and Madagascar at two Bible studies! Praise God. He has brought us kind people who are opening up doors.

This month, Gia and I head to Orlando, FL for a week so Gia can attend Wycliffe's orientation for new members.



Presenting at a Portland, TX church

Meanwhile, in Madagascar, there have been protests because of a lack of water and electricity, resulting in an unstable government. But Bible translation continues! Now there are 10 different language projects underway rather than 9, including Malagasy Sign Language. Praise God! 13 languages remain. Gia and I are eager to join the work there. - Joel & Gia

PRAYER & PRAISE

- 🕊 Oct 2-4, Gia and I are serving on the prayer team at the conference we met at. One year later! May God's kingdom come for each person we pray for.
- 🕊 Pray for the development of sweet relationships with individuals and churches here in Corpus Christi.
- 🕊 May the Wycliffe orientation in Orlando build us both up.



Gia holding the cigarettes and other items of a man about to get baptized

TESTIMONY (9/13)

Gia and I manned the prayer tent at a public outreach. There was a man who had been struggling with drug addiction for decades. When we prayed for him, he felt power in his chest. Then he sat awhile and asked about the baptisms that were happening. Gia explained, and he handed her all his possessions. He told her to film the baptism on his phone and send the video to "everybody" on his contact list.

Wycliffe
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