

Joel & Gia's Africa Update: Madagascar

May 2026



Dear brothers and sisters,

May started out with five flights for me (Joel) to reach Brazil. I trained seven people in recording at a YWAM base in Porto Velho. This particular YWAM base is known for hosting trainings of oral Bible translators-- primarily native Brazilians and Portuguese-speaking Mozambicans. So for four days we trained technical recording skills, and on the fifth day we trained oral translation skills.



Recording practice



Training in Brazil

To practice, we recorded programs about Malaria in Brazilian Portuguese and Mozambican Portuguese. Two of the recordists are oral Bible translators for their languages in Mozambique, so they will go back and use these skills in their homeland. The other five will make Bible recordings in various languages in the Amazon basin. They will target people groups that have never encountered scripture before. Pray for their efforts!

While this was a personal trip, it is a great reminder of the importance of having God's Word in a language and format you understand. In Madagascar, my role will involve training local translators, and living there full time will make our work even more effective.

The infographic on the right illustrates the impact of translation. Last Sunday, 5/17, we presented at a wonderful church. They sang hymns about missions and their choir was very talented!

Also, our baby is due in three weeks! We are greatly anticipating his arrival. Pictures to come. - Joel & Gia



Rainforest trees and grilling fish out of the river

PRAYER & PRAISE

- 🙏 Thanks for presenting at a church!
- 🙏 Another presentation coming up this Sunday (5/24).
- 🙏 Pray for more presentations, so we can activate the Body of Christ to meet this need of Scripture in Madagascar. When we reach 100% of our monthly budget, we can move to Madagascar.

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People Understand God

People begin to understand more about the God who created them and His love for them.



Identity Is Restored

Communities experience a renewed sense of identity and worth as people realize God sees them, knows them and speaks their language.



Churches Are Equipped

Churches are equipped for evangelism, discipleship, church planting and more.



People Encounter Jesus

Communities encounter Jesus in ways that are clear and personal.



To Partner

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