

Joel & Gia's Africa Update: Madagascar

September 2026



Org switch!

Dear brothers and sisters,

After much prayer and counsel, Gia & I have decided to switch parent organizations. Wycliffe USA notified us that they were not currently able to offer our preferred area of service, Madagascar. They recommended we choose another country or another organization. GRN (Global Recordings Network) USA has agreed to send us! They have an agreement in place with our Madagascar partners. In terms of our role, there is no change. I will still serve as a translation consultant for the 22 languages in Madagascar lacking a full Bible, and record them. Our field organizations (Together in Bible Translation and Wycliffe South Africa) remain the same. The only significant difference is that GRN USA will manage donations/accounting for us.

I, Joel, started this process of going to serve in Madagascar because of my experience there. I have been to Madagascar four times. I know the leadership personally and trust them and their translation work. Wycliffe SA, GRN South Africa know them personally and trust them. These other organizations were our counselors. They and the people of Madagascar are all stakeholders in us keeping our word to go and serve there. In short, through GRN USA we are members of GRN South Africa, Wycliffe SA, TiBT and LBT:



Wycliffe USA is helping in this switching process. They recommended us and our character to GRN. And they are forwarding all one-time donation funds to GRN. That leaves only one task: that our monthly partners manually switch over.

How to switch giving from Wycliffe USA to GRN USA

Fill out this form with GRN to make recurring donations by credit card or ACH:

https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/umITrIW8CNA7hKaFdb8Y7Q

Or use the QR code →

Then cancel your donations through Wycliffe.

by phone: 1-800-992-5433

by email: donor_relations@wycliffe.org

If you're currently giving through LBT, there is no change!



History with GRN

We chose GRN because of my history with them. In 2017, I was seeking an org to send me where I felt called, to Southern Africa. I went booth to booth at a missions conference, asking. GRN USA had a booth there, and they directed me to GRN SA. Director of GRN SA Dalene Joubert trained me as a recordist. From 2017-2019 I was full-time recording and editing scripture audio for unreached people groups. Since then I have taken 1-2 trips per year to help them on a volunteer basis.



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2022 Madagascar Bible recording



2023: Madagascar Bible recording



2024: Congo training other recordists



2025: Namibia Bible recording



2026: Brazil training other recordists



Baby Malakai (3 mo) really enjoys hiking

GRN was founded back in 1939. That's 3 years before Wycliffe, and they've been collaborating ever since! GRN is known for recording scripture for unreached people groups—now over 6,700 and counting.

We are thankful to Wycliffe for all that they do in the world for Bible Translation, and grateful for our time with them. We made this choice because we have heard God's continual confirmation for us to Madagascar and southern Africa.

This change is hard for us, but we see it as God setting us up for future longevity and fruitfulness. We trust God and have peace about how he is leading us.

We plan to buy tickets to leave in late November or early December.



PRAYER & PRAISE

- ☞ So close to leaving for Madagascar!
- ☞ TiBT has now started 2 more languages, totaling 15 of the 22 languages in Madagascar needing a Bible!
- ☞ Prayers for details regarding the move

If you want our new prayer card, let us know! The next newsletter will come from joeljuedes@globalrecordings.net. Look out for it!

- Joel & Gia



To Partner

globalrecordingsusa.org/support/missionaries/joel-and-gia-juedes/
or
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