

The Wigglesworth

Fall 2003

I have completed my "CanIL" phase. While at the Canada Institute of Linguistics in the summer, I taught two sections of Articulatory Phonetics—covering most of the sounds spoken in the world's languages. Each sound has a corresponding symbol and technical name in order to distinguish them all. It's quite a challenge making sounds that are unfamiliar to English speakers, but enjoyable when you are able to laugh at your mistakes. It was especially interesting to have an Ethiopian student who spoke languages with these 'odd' sounds.

I also completed my first theology course (with quite a respectable final grade). It was interesting to delve a bit further into theology than I ever have before, yet it's the usual educational experience—the more you learn, the more you realize you don't know. And there is so much more about theology that could be studied!

Getting set up in the Calgary office

As of mid-September I have a computer and office space in the Wycliffe Bible Translators office in Calgary. Let me explain the two parts of my current work.

Part 1: Partnership Development

I am currently receiving about 37 percent of my support quota for this year (see over). As such my role is asking people like you to pray that God would provide financial partners who will support me in doing my part in the big picture of Bible translation worldwide.

Part 2: Cartography (making maps)

'Drawing' on my background in Surveying Engineering, I am assisting a hand full (literally) of people making maps. That means I am given requests from SIL* International in Dallas to build/create maps using mapping software (ArcView). The maps I am currently making are for people groups that have had language survey teams in their area and are now waiting for translators to come and start work in their language. The map is part of a two-page information profile that can then be sent to churches and individuals to pray that God would send workers to each of these people groups and provide them with His life giving Word. These maps are a small part of Wycliffe, but it's just one more aspect that helps to support the work of Bible translation and Wycliffe's goal of Vision 2025.



Making maps is all done with computers too.

Check out our Website at www.wycliffe.ca to find out more about Vision 2025.

It's encouraging to be able to use my previous training for the task of Bible translation. It helps prove that God doesn't waste any part of our life when we seek to put Him first in all we do.

* SIL is Wycliffe's sister organization.

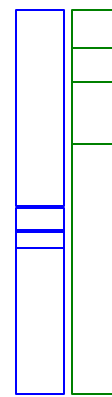
Depending on your religious background, you may need to expand your understanding of "worship." You may think of church services with singing, praying, and listening to a sermon. Or you may think of ceremonies, candles, and communion. Or you may think of healing, miracles, and ecstatic experiences. Worship can include these elements, but worship is far more than these expressions. Worship is a lifestyle. (Rick Warren, The Purpose Driven Life.)

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| Kevin's Puzzle Corner | Can you figure out what word or phrase each of these boxes represent? | nity nity nity | death life | FATHER |
| | | _____ | _____ | _____ |

One aspect of being a member of Wycliffe is that each of us is responsible to raise whatever support is needed for us to do our assigned job. Although there are definite challenges to this, I am thankful to be in a position of constantly trusting God. In Canada, it can become far too easy for us to rely on ourselves and lose sight of our true Provider. How immature it is of us to say, "I deserve this because I earned it," when God is the one who sustains us.

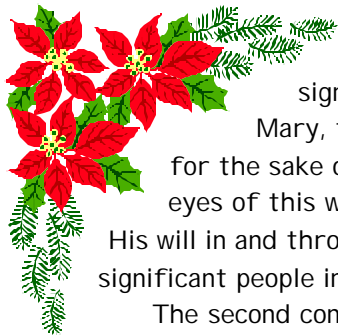
Please pray that God will continue to provide for me as I, like Paul, learn to be content in all things.

The current state of my finances is:
Support Quota = \$2000/month (Sep/03 - Aug/04):
 Remaining: 51%
 Other income: 7%
 Occasional gifts: 5%
 Pledged: 37%



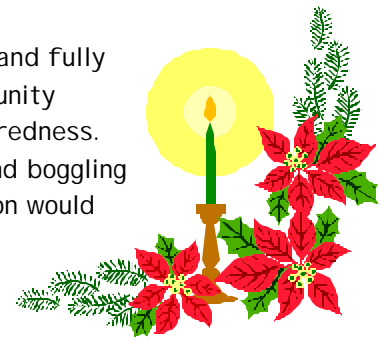
This is how the donations get used:
Expenses (Jun/03 - Oct/03):
 Wycliffe Admin: 10%
 Deductions: 9 %
 Ministry expenses: 17 %
 Salary = gross income: 64%

Donations for donations—Would you (or someone you know) be willing to donate to Wycliffe on behalf of my donations to the Canadian Blood Services? Perhaps we could call it a 'bleed-athon.' It is possible to give up to 48 plasmapheresis donations a year and my goal is to give 40 donations this next year, starting October 24. If you would like to be part of this challenge, please contact me (see below for contact information) and I will keep you up to date with my plasma donations.



As we approach the Christmas season there are two concepts that this year has added to what I will be thinking about. They are in reference to the two most significant people who represent what Christmas is all about. First, there is the Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus (God). Here we have a young woman who chose to give up everything for the sake of God's will. She sacrificed her reputation, her betrothal, any hope for success—in the eyes of this world—and chose to submit herself completely to God. She allowed for God to accomplish His will in and through her. And then she nurtured Jesus as a baby. She and Joseph were the most significant people in developing the human characteristics of Jesus Christ.


The second concept is the very nature of Jesus Christ Himself—fully God and fully man. As we delve into the theology of 'who is God?' His very nature is holy and in community (three-in-one). Humankind, the created, has a nature that is prone to sin and self-centredness. To think of a single person having both of these natures together simultaneously is mind boggling for anyone who is willing to think deeply about it. And yet, that the holy God of creation would humble Himself to become like one of His own created beings in order to remove the separation between us, is the whole premise of Christianity! Emmanuel! God is with us; Christ is in our midst. He is, and ever shall be! Glory to God.



Wycliffe International 2003 Statistics:

Number of languages currently spoken in the world: 6809.
 Number of languages with some of the Bible: 2303. (405 have an adequate Bible, 1034 have an adequate New Testament, and 864 have at least one book of the Bible [2002 statistics from the United Bible Societies].)
 Number of languages in which Bible translation is in progress worldwide: 1699.
 Number of Wycliffe supported personnel: 5277 members; 442 others preparing for service.

Special thanks to Lance at Dove Computer Services for printing and 'pdf-ing' this newsletter. Trinity; life after death; Holy Father

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|  | <p>Send support to: Wycliffe Bible Translators 4316 – 10 St. N.E. Calgary, AB T2E 6K3 (403) 250-5411 (Tue-Thurs) http://www.wycliffe.ca</p> | <p>Home address: Kevin Wigglesworth 7012 Huntridge Hill NE Calgary, AB T2K 4A5 (403) 230-4552 Kevin_Wigglesworth@wycliffe.ca</p> |
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