



Dycks' Digest

July '09 ~ Vol. 25.2

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"I hope someday you will fully understand us, even if you don't fully understand us now. Then on the day when our Lord Jesus comes back again, you will be proud of us in the same way we are proud of you."

2 Cor. 1:13-14

Serving the Americas from Dallas

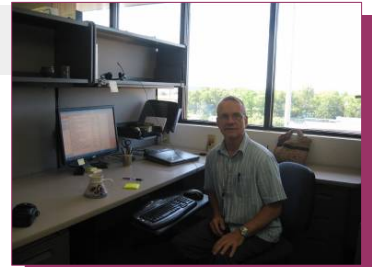


The sun is warming the front of our lovely furnished apartment and it looks like the temperature will again soar over 100° F. We arrived in Dallas, Texas, on Tuesday and by Saturday we had found a new “place” for most of our things. We arrived just in time to celebrate the fourth of July and watch the spectacular fireworks overhead; maybe it’s a sign of a warm welcome and fruitful ministry ☺.

It’s funny how you have to get used to a new way of doing everything—so much of life is carried out on autopilot. This morning I was making a cup of coffee and naturally I turned right to open the refrigerator to get the milk—except that now the fridge is on the left... For the first few days we tried out different spots to sit and have our devotions. I think I have settled on the big chair in the living room and Sally in our bed or outside in the courtyard of the apartment before the sun gets too hot. Every little habit needs to be relearned. We are glad for this home away from home that the Lord has prepared for us. I met a couple of the men in the apartment building; all of them are training to be involved in Bible translation. **I am thinking about starting a men’s Bible study.** Perhaps God will bless this as a good idea and lots of participation.

Why Dallas?

Some people have asked us why we would go to Dallas to be missionaries. Surely there are more effective places to reach the lost? My response is that although we serve in Dallas our ministry is to those people throughout the Americas who want to read God’s word in their own language. Many are coming to



Wycliffe looking for their own Scriptures. Others remain unreached without a witness and as local and foreign mission organizations are reaching these people they are able to bring the Scriptures and literacy materials in that language. So our main impact is not to the people of Dallas, but to the minority peoples throughout the Americas. Dallas just happens to be the central station of the *Global Publications Services* for Wycliffe’s work.

Praise -&- Prayer

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Some people have asked us why we don't focus on reaching the unreached. I explain that the whole purpose of Wycliffe Bible Translators is precisely that, **to bring the Scriptures to those minority and often forgotten peoples through Bible translation and literacy.** And although we live in Dallas, we serve a very strategic role in linking the Bible translation manuscripts with the hard copy in the hands of unreached peoples. We are part of the team that gets Scripture into the hands and hearts of those who want it.

Some people suggest we should focus on the **10/40 window or the Muslim world.** We recognize the extreme challenge of this part of the evangelistic task. But it is especially difficult for North American missionaries because of the strong bias against Westerners. In contrast, we are seeing much **greater evangelistic results by Latin Americans** serving in Muslim settings. Although this was not our main strategy, we can now see the hand of God in reaching Latin America first. Latin American missionaries are joining in the challenge of reaching the 10/40 world. **Our role as the North American church is shifting toward training and supporting the growing church of the South.** Along with Bible translation for the tribal peoples of the Americas, Wycliffe has been very active in training Latin American missionaries in the skills of linguistics, Bible translation, and cross-cultural ministry—**equipping the church of the South to engage in the global vision of God's Kingdom around the world.**

Praise God for the accelerated progress of Bible translation world wide.

Praise God for safe travel to Canada and then down to Dallas, nearly 3,000 miles.

Praise God for summer jobs for Jonathan in Dallas, and Laura in Atlanta. Ondrej is working for his father-in-law and YMCA part time during the summer.

Praise God for the funding of the four Bible Stories Book projects. They are in the final stages of layout preparation before being printed in Korea. These four languages represent 550,000 people.

Praise God for the apartment we have only a few miles away from the office. It is managed by Wycliffe for students in training and since they had an opening we are able to stay here possibly for a year. The reasonable rent is within our budget so it looks like this will be our permanent address for the next while.

Pray for our adjustment as we settle into our lives and responsibilities at work, in our new home, in our church and community.

Pray for the remaining language groups in the Americas that still need their own copy of God's Word.

Another whirlwind tour...



Before setting out for Dallas, we wanted to make a final visit to my dad and two brothers in Winnipeg, Canada. Who knows how long it will be before we are able to visit next. We were delighted to be able to share in Sunday school classes and home fellowship groups. We even got to share in my niece's birthday celebration. No visit is quite complete unless dad takes you up for an airplane ride. The view of Manitoba from 1,500 feet emphasizes how flat it is—perfect for all those grain fields.



While passing through Chicago I raised a couple blisters on a friend's porch roof renewal project. Marianne insisted we not disturb the robin nest. Amazingly the eggs and nest were unmolested but the stress was too much for mama robin who eventually abandoned all hope.



My family

It was extra special to be able to see each of our four children and grandchildren as we made our way to Dallas. Leaving parents is hard—leaving children and grandchildren is the hardest.

Bill & Sally Vresek

