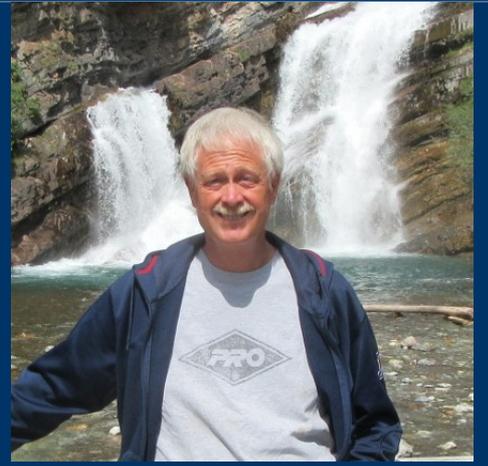


Bits from Bill

Using Information Technology to Help Bring the Word of God
to the Indigenous Peoples of Brazil

March, 2017



Resurrection Day!

Once again, we are in the season when we celebrate the real reason why we have hope. If not for the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we would be adrift in the world; disobedient children of God with only an eternity in Hell to look forward to. But He is merciful!

So as we celebrate the single greatest event in human history, let us remember the incredible love that it represents. And let us be thankful. *Very* thankful.

Big Projects

Not too long ago, I mentioned possible sources of funding for certain important projects here at the ALEM center. At this point, the funding still has not come through, and that is still a prayer item. However, unused resources were found in the regular budget, and as a result we were able to get some vital improvements done on the network infrastructure.

During the first full week of March, we installed a fiber optic line from the office to the dining hall, where we put a professional-grade switch that feeds four different professional-grade access points. Since my own home is in the affected area, I can testify that the improvement has been impressive!

In May, we are expecting to get another load of equipment, which should enable us to finish this part of the overhaul. Please join me in praying for future improvements.

Linguistics Course

At the end of January, the annual Linguistics course began here at the ALEM center. This time, there are only around 10 students. One thing that really excites me is that there are two of them that I have known since they were kids back in Cuiabá! It is encouraging to see young people grow up and discover a real commitment to the LORD in their lives.

However, because of the low numbers, the decision was made to only offer the first module of the course this year. It is still possible that they will have the second module, but in order to do that, they need commitment from several more students to come and take the module. Please be praying that, if it is God's will to have the second module, the necessary number of new students will enroll.

Financial Issues

When I returned to Brazil at the beginning of '16, I was in good financial shape. The exchange rate was favorable, and that enabled me to get a very good car. Since then, the exchange rate has dropped. It is still favorable, but not as much as before. And in addition, one of my largest financial partners has been forced to discontinue their support.

Fortunately, they are reducing it by a quarter, every few months, with the intention of ceasing entirely at the end of this year. And while the still-favorable exchange rate helps, there is no guarantee that it will continue.

Wycliffe USA requires members in field assignments to have sufficient financial support before going overseas. Since I came here with full support, I will probably not be sent home to make up the difference—unless it becomes a serious barrier to continuing my ministry.

While it is much more difficult to raise additional financial support while not in the States, nothing is impossible for God. So I am asking you to please pray that He would intervene and raise up the difference, even though I am currently in the field.

Beyond that, the only thing I can do is continue to trust God. He made it clear years ago that He wanted me here, and I am still convinced of that. Whatever is lacking, He will provide!



ALEM Coworker Working on the Fiber Optic Project

Prayer

- To be able to make up the financial shortfall that will hit in the coming months.
- For the funds necessary to complete the projects that we were unable to do this time.
- More students to enroll in the Linguistics course at ALEM, to make the second module feasible.
- For the students in the current module, that they would finish well and sense God's direction.

Praise

- For the risen Christ, who has conquered sin and death.
- For the funds that enabled us to get some necessary projects done at the ALEM center.
- For the students who are taking the Linguistics course.
- For God's provision that has enabled me to remain in this ministry over the years.

May the resurrected Christ shine forth in your heart, that the whole world may see his light.

Bill

*Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.
He will bring forth your
righteousness as the light
and your justice as the noonday.*
Psalm 37:5-6

Address for Correspondence

Bill Penning
C. P. 6101
70741-970 Brasília – DF
BRAZIL

Phone Number / WhatsApp

+55-61-98222-4983

Email Addresses

bill_penning@wycliffe.org

bill_penning@sil.org

Skype

bill_penning

Address for Contributions

Wycliffe Bible Translators
P.O. Box 628200
Orlando, FL 32862-8200

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