

# Prayer and Praise Update

October, 2017

Dear Praying Friends,

Greetings again from South America!

It's hard to believe that October is almost over. 2017 will soon be drawing to a close. Already, we are getting the first showers from the upcoming Rainy Season, after months of dry weather. Before long, green things will be growing again, as the annual cycle of life renews itself. It's like that with us as well. We are born spiritually dry, and only the renewing power of the Holy Spirit can bring us life.

Life at the ALEM center has been relatively quiet since the end of the linguistics course. Yet the work goes on. This has been an opportunity for a number of people to travel and participate in events, or to simply return home and share with their home churches what God has been doing in Bible translation. And at the end of last month, a couple of young indigenous men who took the Mother Tongue Translation course a few years ago were here, along with their facilitator. Since completing the course, these young men have not been idle! They have already finished several books of the New Testament, and are working on others. The reason for their visit was to spend time with a translation consultant—which is a requirement for all SIL or ALEM translation work—to check over some of these books. For me, it was a real blessing to see how God is continuing to use these guys to bring His word to their people.

On a personal note, a friend from Mato Grosso (a Brazilian state) was here on the center for a couple of days, and I was able to help her get a visa at the Angolan embassy for a trip to Africa. It was a real blessing to see how God answered prayers during that process.

In my last newsletter, I talked about some upcoming financial needs. Well, praise the LORD! I can report that, since sending out that newsletter, I have already received pledges which, when combined, make up for nearly half of what I will be losing. Do keep praying that God would supply the rest. And keep sharing this need—and this praise!—with prayer groups in your home churches.

So please give thanks for:

- The beginning of Rainy Season, with its promise of renewal.
- The progress made by this group of indigenous translators.
- The chance to help a friend get a visa for a trip to Africa.
- The tremendous beginning to recovering the financial support that I am losing.

Please pray that:

- The indigenous translators would remain faithful to complete the work.
- God would raise up the remainder of the financial support that I am losing.
- I would use this experience to grow in trusting God!

Serving the technical needs of Bible translation in Brazil,

Bill Penning

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