

# Prayer and Praise Update

October, 2024

Dear Praying Friends,

Greetings again from Brasília!

God is still teaching me patience. Yeah, you'd think that after all this time, I would have more. But as the saying goes, "I want patience, and I want it *right now!*" Doesn't happen that way. Anyway, the big change in plans is that I will not be having the left eye done until after I return from my upcoming time in the States. The reason is that my right eye needs to improve more. No, it's not that the right eye is being unusually slow in recovery. Rather, I had excessive expectations. Yes, the vision in my right eye is improving, and will continue to improve even more, and when the process is complete I should have totally normal vision in that eye. But there are steps that it still has to go through.

Recently, the ophthalmologist began removing stitches. Again, a normal process to help shape the transplanted cornea to reduce astigmatism. And I still pray that, when the process is complete, I would have zero astigmatism in this eye. And I ask you to join me in this prayer. And please also keep praying that the healing process—the new cornea properly fusing with the base of the old one—would continue normally until it is 100% complete.

And pray that I would have the patience to wait for this process to finish. Theoretically, I *could* have the left eye done now. But with my right eye still not fully recovered, this would leave me without good vision in either eye, while both eyes underwent the recovery process. As the doctor explained, it is important to wait until the first eye is recovered to the point where I can see out of it at least as well as I currently see out of the left eye. Only then can the left eye be done without leaving me unable to function.

Meanwhile, I am getting ready for my time in the States. One major task is preparing my replacement to be able to properly take care of the center network while I am gone. While I will be available on-line for questions, and even remote assistance, if necessary, it is important that he have a good understanding of how everything works, so that he would be able to deal with routine problems and situations without having to hope that I am available for consultation, while thousands of miles away in a different time zone, camping with the bears. So I am currently preparing a document; an instruction manual, so to speak. Please pray with me that it would be as complete as possible, and that I would not fail to include anything important.

So please give thanks:

- For the decision to hold off doing the left eye, so that I won't end up with both eyes undergoing recovery at the same time.
- For being able to begin the next step in the recovery of my right eye.
- For a competent guy willing to take care of the ALEM network during my absence.

Please pray:

- That my right eye would continue to heal, and in the end have zero astigmatism.
- That I would have the patience to wait while the right eye continues to heal.
- That the network documentation I am preparing would be complete and understandable to my replacement.

Starting to prepare for my time in the States, while continuing to support Bible translation in Brazil,

Bill Penning

SIL Brazil / Wycliffe Bible Translators

## *Address for Correspondence*

Bill Penning  
Núcleo Rural Boa Esperança II, Chácara 4  
Granja do Torto  
70636-901 Brasília – DF  
BRAZIL

## *Address for Contributions*

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

On-Line Donations: <https://www.wycliffe.org/partner/BDADF4>