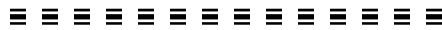


## He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!! Alleluia!!!

But for millions of people there is no alleluia, no shout of affirmation. Who can these be? They are those who have never heard the salvation story even though it may have been spoken in the market place by an evangelist, even though it may have been told in the local church. Because the telling was not in their own language the story was not heard. For these folks, the empty tomb has no meaning and they have no life. "The devil's done, the victory's won" is replaced by "my work is never done" and "the spirits always win". Theirs is a reality that is governed by malevolent ancestral spirits, spells, and witchcraft. The ever elusive victory is sought out through diviners, shamans, and sacrifices. They need to hear the story.

Bringing the salvation story to people in the language that speaks to their heart is not a simple and easy task. The more Lisa and I prepare to serve by studying here in Dallas, the more inadequate we feel. Yet we know that the work will not be accomplished by us, but rather by God using us and the skills He has given us.



### **Schooling**

We have just begun our last term of school, at least for the time being. The previous term was very challenging but a fantastic learning experience. I had a class on Discourse Analysis and one on Cognitive Linguistics. I loved them both but the reading about did me in. Meanwhile, Lisa continued her studies in Scripture Use. This term I have a class on Semantics and Pragmatics and one on Language Program Design and Management. I'm going to really enjoy the latter because it involves a major paper and presentation for which there is a lot of research involved, which I consider fun. School will end the first week of June and then we'll be leaving Dallas.

### **This Summer**

We are anticipating taking a trip to Botswana where we'll meet some of the people involved in language development and translation and

hopefully get a feel for what it will be like to live there. For the past three months we've had the pleasure of getting to know the Cook family who live and work in Botswana. They've given us a taste of the country and the life there that has us anxiously looking forward to more.

We look forward to visiting with many of you this coming year as later this summer we begin Partnership Development full time. We'll be traveling throughout the Midwest visiting with congregations and small groups in order to tell about the work we'll be doing and the people we'll be working among and to raise support for the mission. Like all of LBT's missionaries, we rely on individuals and congregations to support our work with prayers and contributions. The opportunity to bring God's Word to those who do not yet have it is, in essence, your opportunity and your labor with Lisa and I as your representatives abroad. We pray that we will serve you well in this capacity.

### **Interesting Linguistic Tidbits:**

Does word order really matter?

We all know instinctively when words are out of order. The sentence doesn't sound right or it just doesn't make sense. Well, the same is true in other languages and if one doesn't fully understand the nuances and rules for word order translation will suffer. For example, in one Bantu language, whatever is the last word of the sentence is what is in focus. Thus, in the sentence, "Don't steal from widows", it is implied that it is OK to steal from everyone else but widows. Stealing is not the focus of the sentence, but rather who not to steal from. The fellow who found this out had been in the process of translating the New Testament and had to go back and recheck all of his work and make the necessary changes to make sure his translation didn't convey the wrong message because of incorrect word ordering.

### **Prayers of thanksgiving:**

- We are nearly finished with this phase of our training and ready to move on to Partnership Development;
- Spring has arrived and has bathed Texas in blossoms.

### **Prayers for help and healing:**

- Lisa's Uncle Bill who is receiving treatment for pancreatic cancer;
- Our friend Jo Mirly who is suffering with ALS;
- Tim's dad who is coping with complications from kidney failure and dialysis.

#### ***Correspondence***

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#### ***Contributions***

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