



# At the Well

Tim and Lisa Beckendorf, LBT missionaries in Botswana

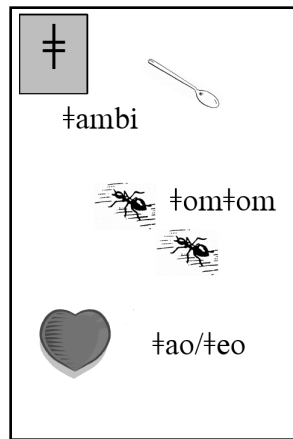


Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."  
John 4:13, 14 (NIV)

## Literacy Workshop

In August, the Khwedam language committee held a literacy workshop. Well, it was a literacy workshop of sorts. All of the people that attended could already read and write Setswana or English and the workshop's focus was on teaching them to read and write their own language, Khwedam. So, what is the difference and why would a workshop be necessary? The committee has opted to use symbols from the International Phonetic Alphabet to represent the clicks in their language and these symbols look a bit strange to the untrained person. Most of the time spent at the workshop was to teach the students to read and write the click symbols. To assist them in

this task, we produced several materials. First we made a booklet on the clicks that had the words using the click symbols and pictures representing the words. The language has 9 different variations for each of the four clicks so the booklet gave examples of each of the variations for each click. It was quite an effort to put it all together but was worth it. The books were well received by the teachers and the students, some of them commenting that they finally have something that they can use to practice reading.



We also made two trilingual booklets on animals. Again, each animal had a picture and the name of the animal in Khwedam, Setswana, and English. Lastly we had a two page "booklet" containing a couple of stories that Tim had recorded and transcribed from elders in the communities about

how life used to be. We are now working on plans for the next workshop, thinking of ways to build on what went well this time, and ways to improve areas that are weak.



Some of the students and their teacher at the workshop

## Not quite reaching for the stars...

The latest weekend project we completed was installing a solar system. Once again, although the house is wired for electricity, you can't count on having power when you need it. The longest without power so far has only been two days but that is a long time when you rely on a fan to keep cool, computers to do work, and a fridge to keep your food. So, over the course of two weekends we put up a tower and a platform for solar panels, mounted the panels, and wired the controller, the batteries, and the inverter.

## *Water, water, everywhere but not a drop ...*

*You'd think that living next to a river the village would have a consistent supply of water at the standpipes throughout the village, but No. For one reason or another there is a frequent shortage of water. We had finally had enough of relying on jugs of water to get us through the water outages and bought a 250 gallon tank and a pressure pump. Tim spent three days installing and plumbing everything (parts are a real problem to find up here). Now not only do we have a supply of water, we also finally have enough water pressure to fill the hot water tank that is up near the roof of the house. Now we have hot water whenever we need it—what luxury! We are quite happy with the system and our timing for installing it. The week after the tank was in the village taps were dry for 7 days straight. Our supply of water in jugs would have been long spent and like the rest of the village we would have been lugging water out of the lagoon behind the house. On a side note, right now the crocodiles have come out of two or three months of not eating and are bulking up for mating season, so fetching water from the river is rather risky.*

## *Aaron*

*With all of the weekend projects going on here, Aaron has been a big help. He has claimed Tim's stubby ratchet and a socket and goes around the house “fixing” things with his new tool. He also has a small block of wood that is his “hammer” which he also uses to “fix” things. When he's not working with his tools, he builds 'pumps' out of his blocks and 'fixes' them (our water pump broke rather spectacularly about a week after we had put it in, and Aaron was thrilled to help Tim fix it by handing him tools).*



*Aaron and his pumps*

## *Household Setup Fund*

*With all of the improvements we've made on the house, we've exhausted our household setup fund. If you would like to help resuscitate this account you may send a contribution to Lutheran Bible Translator and make a note that it is for the Beckendorf Household Setup. We would greatly appreciate any help that we receive.*

- Please continue to pray for our language and culture learning, that we will be able to communicate effectively and accurately.*
- Please pray for the people that we work with, so many are infected with HIV/AIDS. Please pray for a reversal of the escalating rate of infection.*
- Finally, join us in thanksgiving for all of you, our partners, who faithfully remember our work in your prayers, and who give so generously to support our work financially.*

## *Correspondence and Support Information*

*You may support our ministry with gifts made payable to Lutheran Bible Translators and indicate that they are for the Beckendorf Ministry. They may be mailed to:*

*Lutheran Bible Translators  
303 North Lake Street, Box 2050  
Aurora, IL 60507-2050.*

*You may also contribute on-line through LBT's secure web site: <https://lbt.gospelcom.net/involve/giftsec.php>*

*Additionally, you may also support our ministry by using electronic fund transfer. Please call LBT@1-800-532-4253 for details.*

*You may contact us at:*

*e-mail: [tlbeckendorf@LBT.org](mailto:tlbeckendorf@LBT.org)  
web site: <http://www.LBT.org/beckendorf>*

*Your servants in Christ,*

*Tim, Lisa, and Aaron Beckendorf*