



Warm and humid greetings from the South Sudan, the world's newest country! I am currently working at our translation center in Juba where I am doing a consultant check of Philippians, Colossians and 2 Corinthians with the Keliko translation team. This week we have been struggling with the Apostle Paul's 2nd letter to the Corinthians, which is one of the more difficult books for a translator to translate. The church that Paul had started at Corinth had been infiltrated by some false teachers who taught false doctrines and who strongly opposed Paul's ministry. Paul wrote the letter to defend his ministry and to rebuke those false teachers. One of the things that makes the letter so difficult to translate is the fact that Paul chose to use irony and sarcasm in order to condemn and mock those false teachers. Irony and sarcasm are rhetorical devices that use words of opposite meaning in order to rebuke, condemn or ridicule. Extra care is needed to ensure that the translation does not result in the opposite meaning being understood by the reader. For example, when Paul referred to the false teachers as "super-apostles" in 2 Cor. 11:5, he was actually mocking them for their attitude of thinking they are better than Paul and the other evangelists.

I love my job! Looking deeply into the Word of God on a daily basis is a dream come true for me! Hebrews 4:12 says, "The word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword." The work that I do as a Bible translation consultant is helping the African Bible translators make that sword the sharpest it can be!

Travis is in the middle of his Mission Discipleship Program with Operation Mobilization in South Africa. Please pray for wisdom for him as he considers where the Lord would have him serve after his training program finishes at the end of January. He has been offered a place on the **Logos Hope** which is currently berthed in Malaysia and will be in the Philippines for the first half of 2012.

We will be travelling to South Africa from December 10 to January 29. It has been 3 years since our last furlough in South Africa. It will be good to spend some quality time with Sharon's family during the holidays. We are in need of a vehicle to use during our time in South Africa. Please pray with us for the Lord's provision.

Prayer & Praise:

- Praise for the good work on sharpening the sword of the Keliko Scriptures!
- Sharon and I have been separated 7 weeks out of the last 12 weeks. Pray for us!
- Pray for Tom as he begins to work on 3 books which will be consultant checked next year:
- Didinga Gospel of Mark, Ndali Gospel of Matthew and Laarim Gospel of John.
- Pray for wisdom for Travis' future service with Operation Mobilization.
- Pray for Sharon's parents who are now retired and without a vehicle.
- Pray for the Lord's provision for a vehicle for us to use during our visit to South Africa.

Thank you so much for your love and prayers,

With love from Africa,

Tom (South Sudan), Sharon & Jordan (Tanzania)

Personal Address: *and Travis (South Africa)*

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For Financial Involvement:

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Tom with Elder Joseph Loguma of the Laarim language group in South Sudan. Tom will check the Laarim Gospel of John next year.