

PRAISES

- For wonderful times of ministry and visiting with family during our trip back East
- For safety on our trip and a good travel experience with Toby
- For God's financial provision through YOU, our ministry partners

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Ask God to give us wisdom and direction regarding future trips.
- Pray that we will soon be able to get the necessary paperwork to finish our visa applications.
- Pray that the remaining finances will be covered, allowing us to leave by December.

Summer News

I never thought God would work this way in our lives. I've heard stories of 'divine appointments,' but until now, it hasn't happened to me. Let me explain. Back in April, while eating with some friends at a Village Inn in Las Cruces, we met Alan and Vanna Granger, pastors of Valley Faith Center. We had not met them before, but they knew our friends. On the spot, Alan invited us to come down and speak sometime. We came down the first Saturday of June. We did not know that only a few days before we arrived, Alan was in the hospital for severe pain in his legs. After the examination, the doctors told him he had lost more than half of his blood due to internal bleeding. He nearly died! Instead, Allen recovered enough to leave the hospital, and we had a good Sunday morning service. This church has now partnered with us in prayer and finances. God was at work in our lives and Alan's.



Speaking at Maranatha Fellowship

The next Sunday was a blessing, too. We were invited by Christian Life Fellowship, Santa Fe, to share about our involvement with Wycliffe. Christian Life is a special place for me. That's where I graduated from high school, met some of my best friends, attended services, and grew closer to the Lord. I have to admit that I was possibly the most nervous I've been speaking at a church! Maybe it's easier to speak where no one knows you. Anyway, everything went well, and a number of people said they were blessed by what the message the Lord had given for me to speak that morning. Christian Life has partnered with us in prayer and finances, and I want to express our deepest thanks for their commitment to us.

We ended June by taking a trip to Delaware and Pennsylvania. We shared at Maranatha Fellowship and Central Mennonite Church in West Dover, and both churches had a warm, supportive congregation. Thanks to both churches for their willingness to let us share, for their generosity, and for their continued prayers. I also want to thank the various relatives who put us up for the night, fed us, provided the car seat and car, drove us to and from the airport, and for the good times we shared.



Tobias' first visit to the Atlantic Ocean

What's next? We are praying about several possibilities for ministry for July, August, and September. We may do a west coast trip, a Texas trip, and a trip through middle America. We would prefer to do our longer trips during the summer when the weather is good. Please pray that God will give us clear direction and open doors.



Partners in Bible Translation

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Note: You can donate, sign up for our
newsletter, and much more online!

A Few Words about Tobias

Toby has begun scooting around on the floor and is working on learning to crawl and sit. We introduced him to cereal this month, and he caught on fast! This little guy likes to eat. ☺

During our trip to Delaware and Pennsylvania Tobias got to meet lots of relatives. He seems to enjoy people and did very well with all the new faces.

Please continue to pray that God will give us wisdom to be good parents to our unique little boy. Pray too that we will be sensitive to his needs in the midst of our busy schedule.



To Partner with Us Financially

Please mail contributions and commitment forms to Wycliffe Bible Translators, PO Box 628200, Orlando, FL 32862-8200.

- 1) For contributions to our **general support**, include a separate note saying, "For the ministry of Jonathan & Stephanie Compton, acct. #200268."
- 2) To make a one-time gift to our **overseas setup account**, include a separate note saying, "For the overseas setup fund of Jonathan & Stephanie Compton, acct. #200268-71."

You Are a Bible Translator!

When you hear the phrase, 'Bible translator,' you might think of a well-educated linguist with good health who lives in a tribe far away, strives to understand the culture, and translates the teachings of Jesus in a meaningful way. I've looked up to these pioneers, but thought of them as very different from me.

Now I realize that every Christian is a Bible translator. We interact daily with people who need God's Word. It might be a teenager, a man from Detroit on the bus, or someone you always see at church. Whatever our situation, God calls us to tell His life-bringing Word. It is easier to be judgmental, but to be effective, we must take the time to listen and understand.

The content of God's Word never changes; the packaging is contextualized for those we meet. When we make no effort to translate the truth in a culturally relevant way, our message becomes alien and unintelligible.

Even though the Holy Spirit can change a life in minutes, God often places us in long-term relationships with people who need His love. St. Francis said, "Preach the gospel always, and if necessary, use words." Bible translation in its broader sense becomes listening, caring, and communicating in whatever culture God places us.

We're over halfway there!

