

PRAISES

- We had a great West Coast trip—safe travels, good ministry and fellowship times, and FUN seeing God's amazing creation.
- Toby's passport application is completed and in process!
- We have received 1/3 of our one-time setup costs.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- For our upcoming Midwest trip
- For Toby's passport to be finished in record time so we can move ahead with our visas
- For a smooth transition with the new principal at Hillcrest International School

Why Do MK's Matter?

Many of you know that "M.K." stands for "missionary kid." MK's are the reason that Stephanie and I are going overseas. When some hear about missions, they think of evangelistic crusades where thousands respond to an altar call, or of adventurous Indiana Jones types carrying a Bible instead of a whip. Before I joined Wycliffe, my idea of missions was unrealistic.

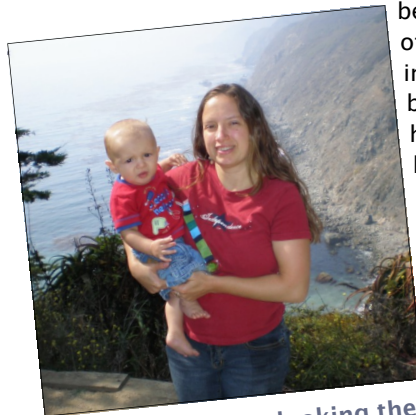
Now I believe that missions changes lives more through long-term relationships and the unnoticed details that you seldom hear about in newsletters. For example, missionaries typically go overseas as a family: husband, wife, and their children. While the final product of their work may be a new translation of the Bible, the family has also had a positive impact on the people in the area. By the time MK's leave for college, they have made friends and shared their beliefs with many nationals, often over the course of many years.



New friends at a home meeting in Sheridan, OR

Stephanie is reading *Three Cups of Tea*, a New York Times bestseller about an MK who becomes a mountain climber, then finally a tireless promoter of education for children in an almost forgotten region of Pakistan. While his story is remarkable, it is not unusual for MK's to become involved in community improvement and ministry. We often hear of the stereotypical rebellious MK who rejects Christ and lives wildly, but this is not the norm. A 15 year study was carried out by MK-CART/CORE in which the researchers observed the impact of living overseas on MK's. What they found was that the vast majority remained Christians and somewhere between 33 to 50% became missionaries and ministers themselves.

What could account for such a positive outcome? MK's have, just by their living situation, grown up being trained as missionaries. They have seen the contrast between the wealth in their home country and the lack in other countries. They have seen firsthand the destructive impact of spirit worship on a community. They see the beauty in another culture, and see ways those in their home country are impoverished spiritually. They live a life of contrasts that show them each day the light and dark in the two cultures they go between.



A picnic stop overlooking the California coastline

Yet without good parents, teachers, and mentors, MK's may not have such a positive experience. Our goal is to be part of the ministry team that provides the love, encouragement, and education these unique children need. When we succeed, far more lives are reached for Christ than we can ever know.



Partners in Bible Translation

OUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Jonathan & Stephanie Compton
2450 Mervosh PL SW
Albuquerque, NM 87105

Phone: 505.216.6776 and 505.250.1162
E-mail: jonathan_compton@wycliffe.net and stephanie_compton@wycliffe.net

Website: www.teachmks.org

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

What's Cookin' with Tobias

Toby is a cheerful, social little fellow. He has learned to crawl on his hands and knees (but still prefers to scoot on his belly if he's in a hurry) and pull himself up to a standing position.

He is a good traveler and sleeps (a little too) well in the car seat. He touched both the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans before he was 7 months old.

We love our little boy and enjoy watching his personality emerge. Please continue to pray that God will help us to care for him well.



September 2009

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."

West Coast Trip Summary

We would like to thank those of you who were praying for us as we traveled to the west coast, Seattle, and back to Albuquerque in August. The Lord kept us safe, excited about His work, and healthy. Even though it was stressful at times, we feel the trip has grown our partnership team and brought us closer to going overseas.

Here are some of the highlights:

- The tamale dinner fundraiser in Berkeley, CA. Thanks to Carmen who hosted this event!
Facebook made it possible to inform nearly 200 people about our trip.
Prayer meeting in Oakland, CA. Thanks to Joseph who is in Indonesia on a ministry trip as I write this letter.
The barbecue home meeting in Redding, CA. Thanks, Carol!

- Speaking at a church in Dunsmuir, CA. Thanks, Chris!
CAR CRASH! Almost. God protected us from getting t-boned at a strange 3-way stop near Sheridan, OR. Thank you, Jesus!
Home meeting in Sheridan, OR. Thanks, Gary and LaDonna!
Great times staying with people on the trip. We had to stay in a motel only twice on the entire trip! Thanks to all of you who hosted us.

The summer was a good time to take a long ministry trip like this. Now we are planning some shorter trips a little closer to home. We will be going to Kansas and a few other places in the Midwest and have been invited to do some ministry at a church near Phoenix, AZ. We'll keep you posted on how things are going. Thanks again for remembering to pray for us and for the many ways you share in making our efforts possible.

We're over halfway there!

