



Pray the Heart of God for the Bibleless and ALL Peoples

Serving Bible Translation through Technology, & Deaf & Prayer Advocacy

Stretch Marks

Do you ever feel like Hebrews 11:8? "And he (Abraham) went without knowing where he was going." We've been feeling a bit of that lately and growing in faith as we step into new assignments.

Monday, June 13, 2022 presented the news that our assignments were coming to a close and to work on closure tasks while praying about how the Lord would desire our continued service. We knew instantly that you already had been praying with us for 3+ years whether the Lord would have us serve sign language translation needs one day and had taken steps of faith training in our free time since it was on our hearts with a nudge we couldn't seem to ignore. :) However, we didn't know if we were ready and could see that it would be no small task to discover our next assignments. We had contacts to make, needs to research, praying to do, interviews to sometimes sweat through, haha, a training week to go to, closure to have

with our now previous team. Soon we were in awe seeing God's divine appointments and fingerprints all over bringing more clarity to where He would be leading us. We sent out email prayer request updates before we went to training, and upon our return, to have prayer coverage in this vital process discovering God's design for our next assignments. We are sorry if it has been quiet via snail mail and you are not on email to hear from us. Thanks for any of your prayers whether you knew the details or not, we know God heard you! Below is our closure time group picture with our Bibleless Peoples Prayer Project team and a picture of Steve meeting, Adan, over lunch, our sign language translation advisor. Steve will work with Adan and others in Tech Support and ASL communications with global sign language translation partners and Glenda will be continuing to serve in prayer mobilization. Via interviews and assessments, they both were invited to what is called the Global Partnerships Team.

Learn more on [Page 2!](#)



Praise God for:

- His faithfulness in our assignments for the last 16+ years and now serving Him in new assignments for His glory who humbly makes us adequate for every good work.
- All those God has faithfully surrounded us with as intercessors, helpers, senders.
- The move of His Spirit preparing the way and timing to now accelerate global sign language translation needs.

Prayer Requests:

- Good health for travels, speaking engagements, and meetings.
- God's hand in the details for the tech/sign language recording 'test run' in December.

Thank You for your generosity in prayer for us and all peoples.



How to Pray for Teams working in Sign Language Translation

Sign languages are entirely visual. They develop separately from the local spoken languages in the same region. There are more similarities between different sign languages in the world, than there are between spoken languages which are in the same language family. Many people who can hear assume it is easy for Deaf people to read and understand written materials. This is an inaccurate assumption, because their sign language is not related to the spoken language, and written script is directly dependent on the sounds of words. Deaf teams use imagery through signing and expressions in their language to interpret scripture. For this reason, passages in the Bible that tell a story—like the parables of Jesus—are often the easiest scriptures for teams to start translating.

Local Deaf ownership and leadership of the translation project is the utmost priority. Too often throughout the world hearing individuals will assume leadership and an abusive environment develops with the Deaf community. This is why local Deaf leadership is an expectation for the teams who are working to translate Scripture.



Many Deaf pastors spend most or all of their time interpreting what written scriptures say in the national or majority language. Once the scripture has been accurately translated pastors need to learn more about how to apply it to their lives and the lives of the people in their churches.

- Pray for training for Deaf pastors, for ways to use the translated scriptures in their churches. Pray that the Holy Spirit would provide teams with inspiration and creativity for scripture engagement.
- Pray for teams ready to start translation that still need additional project support personnel before they can begin.
- Pray for wisdom for the teams and consultants as they seek to translate the scriptures accurately and efficiently.
- Pray that the community checks will provide insight and direction and ways to increase progress in the translation.
- Pray for Godly local Deaf leaders to continue to take leadership in the projects and mentor those involved.
- Pray for good internet connections for teams working remotely.
- Pray for funding and personnel to be available to Deaf communities hoping to begin on sign language Bible translation soon.
- Pray for discernment for hearing people as they work with sign language translation teams, that they have appropriate sensitivity, good relationships and mutual respect with their Deaf colleagues.

Scripture Dedications 2022

Please join us in praising God for these Scripture dedications! Pray that the Scriptures will be used and result in transformed lives.

This is an incomplete list as it is to give you an idea of regions and translation work taking place this past year. Contact us if you would like a more complete list with language names, regions, and populations.

Thank you, Lord, for 20 New Testaments in:

Nigeria, DRC, Chad, South Asia, SE Asia, Columbia, Angola, PNG, Indonesia, Kenya!

Thank you, Lord, for 6 complete Bibles in:

Philippines, PNG, Ethiopia, Indonesia!

PRAY that the Lord's message will spread rapidly and be honored wherever it goes, just as when it came to you.

2 Thessalonians 3:1b (NLT)

For personal correspondence:

Steve & Glenda Kvale

1539 County Road 5

Balaton, MN 56115

507.401.0023

Steven_Kvale@wycliffe.org

Glenda_Kvale@wycliffe.org

Gifts can be designated online at our Wycliffe page: **TranslateTheWord.org**

To give by check/mail, please include a separate note stating: "Preference for the Wycliffe ministry of Steven & Glenda Kvale Acct. #200316", leaving the memo line blank.

Written and Mailed to:
Wycliffe Bible Translators
PO Box 628200
Orlando, FL 32862



A Word from Glenda's Next Team Leader, Doug Haag, Prayer & Project Data Coordinator

God is on the move in the work of missions. He is raising up His Church to take ownership of the remaining task of Bible translation. The Church that understands the foundational nature of the Bible in making disciples of their neighbors is willing to do whatever it takes to see it translated into the languages they understand best. The growing trend is for local churches to not only take the lead in organizing Bible translation projects but they are also providing resources, identifying mother tongue translators, offering office space to translation teams, and managing logistics.

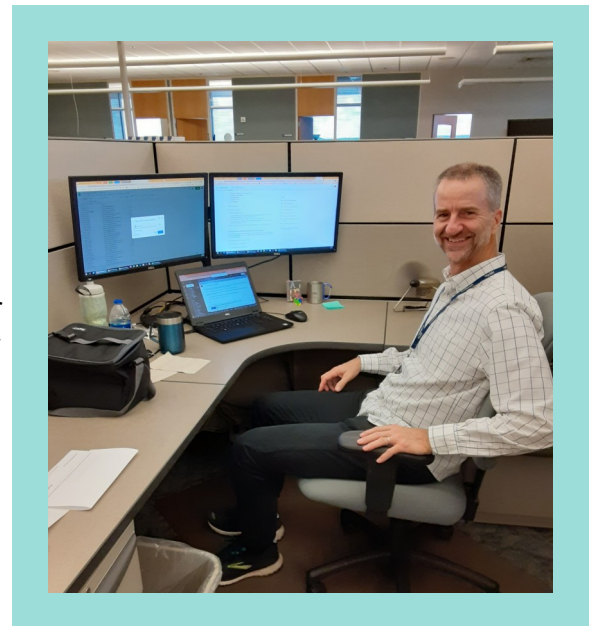
One incredible example is a church denomination in Madagascar that, on its own initiative, produced high-quality translation drafts of the entire Bible in four different languages. They then requested help in the final critical consultant-checking phase in which a specialist checks translated Scripture to ensure accuracy and clarity before publication. The church is looking to train its own consultants in the process, which will allow them to engage and accelerate Bible translation in the remaining languages of Madagascar.

In India, a group of churches is committing to starting translation projects in 100 languages. In Papua New Guinea, churches are taking the lead in starting 195 translation projects.

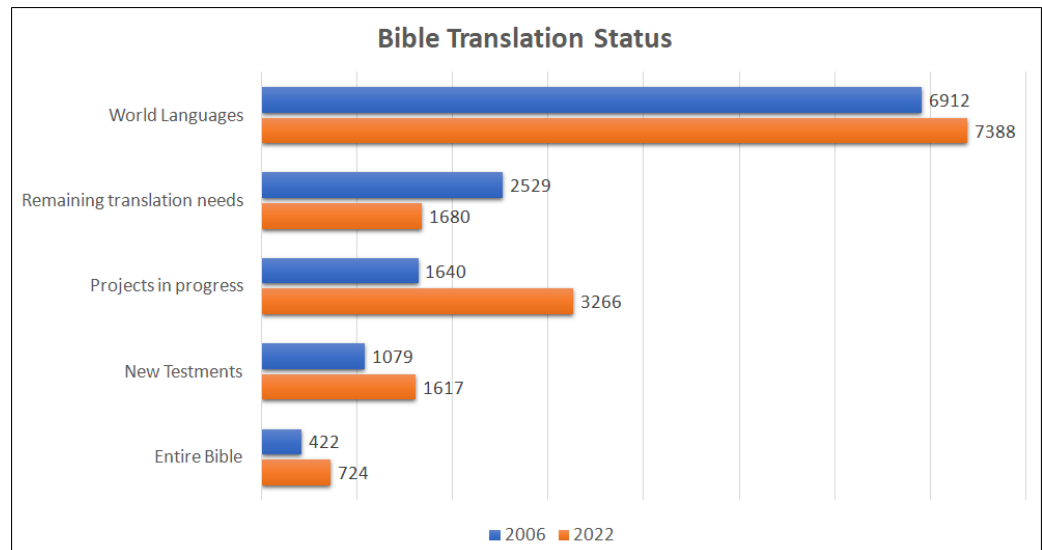
In light of what God is doing, Wycliffe's Global Partnerships (GP) team was started as a multi-organizational collaboration that engages with hundreds of local churches and partner organizations to develop and implement Bible translation projects. As each partner brings what it does best, the needed pieces are brought together to accomplish shared vision and goals. Kingdom resources are better stewarded by minimizing duplication and optimizing staffing. The ultimate goal is an organic, Spirit-led movement from local, regional, and global levels receiving inspiration, impetus, and leadership from the Global Church.

One of the main goals of the Global Partnerships Prayer Information team is to create a more dynamic prayer connection between people, churches and the work of Bible translation. Information platforms are being developed and offered to all GP partners and translation teams that will help streamline project planning, track progress and provide financial accountability. These platforms will also enable a totally new prayer engagement experience. Very soon, a translator will be able to open an app on their phone, enter a prayer request digitally "tagged" by language code to be seen by a donor or prayer partner potentially within an hour.

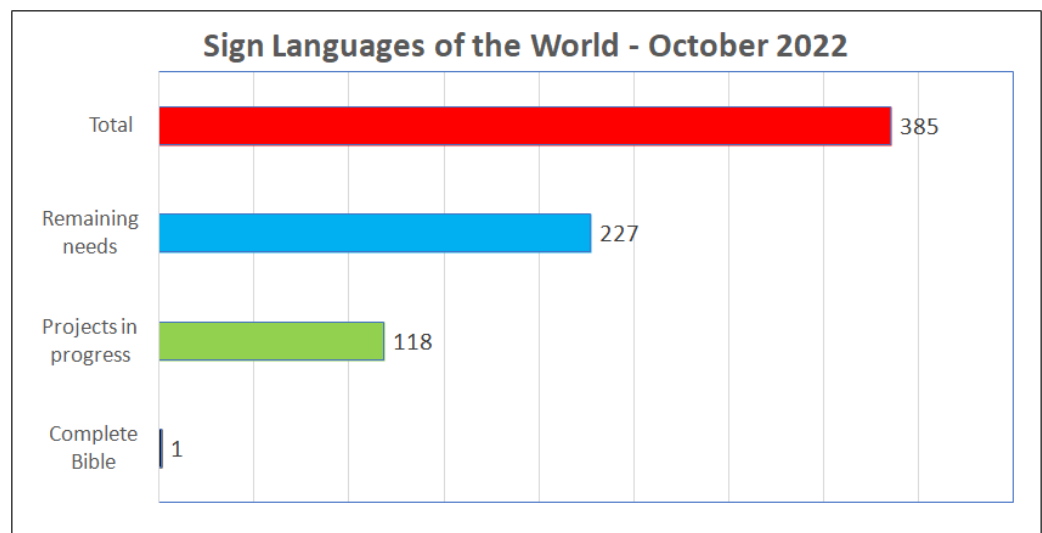
We are excited to have Glenda join the GP Prayer Information team! Her invaluable contribution will help grow the team's capacity to fuel a global prayer movement for Bible translation. Your partnership is key to making this happen!



This chart illustrates the change in the count of languages from 2006 to 2022. The increase in world languages is mostly due to the addition of sign languages. Notice the big difference between the number of unreached people groups and number of translation projects in progress.



Of the 385 sign languages world wide, one, American Sign Language, has the complete bible since 2021. Most sign language translations are in video format. Video editing of translated scripture is more time consuming than the printed version. The use of avatars makes the editing easier and takes less time.



Chameleon uses avatars that look like the people group. Body movements of a signer is recorded by an arrangement of cameras. Software is used to transfer the signer's movement to the avatar. This will remove the appearance of the signer as a roadblock to the people viewing the message in sign language. It also allows for use in sensitive areas where it isn't safe for national translators to be revealed. Steve will be helping with these logistics. Prayers appreciated!

