

Dear Friends and Family,

From Jeff:

October turned out to be as busy as I thought it would be. I made the trip to the sensitive country in Africa. Thank you for praying for travel and safety while I was there. We had the workshop without any problems. The workshop was on how to translate Psalms and other Hebrew poetry. It was encouraging to hear the teams reciting or performing the Psalms they had translated. On the Paratext side of things, I was able to migrate all four projects to Paratext 8 despite intermittent internet connectivity. One of the projects is a revision of a New Testament finished 15 years ago. Many of the formatting codes needed to be updated. The same group has started an Old Testament translation but did not know how to do the proofreading checks built into the software. Altogether I corrected over 5,000 errors or out-of-date markup codes for them. This was the first Paratext training/consultation these teams have ever had. Thank you for sending me there to serve them. The four teams are now ready to move forward faster and better than before.

Paratext Training

In our Paratext training after the Bible Translation conference we had 44 participants from several countries including, Luxembourg, Mexico, Cameroon, and several sensitive countries. There were more than six organizations represented, and many translation consultants who oversee several projects each. We were a team of six facilitators who presented the new features of Paratext 8 and solved many issues that have been vexing some of the translation teams for a while. Thank you for allowing me to help so many translation teams and consultants to do their work better, allowing them to publish sooner.



Bible Translation Conference

Peg, Maggie Jo and I attended the Bi-annual Bible Translation Conference sponsored by SIL, GIAL and the Nida Institute for Bible translation. We had a colleague from our time in Mozambique staying with us, and Maggie Jo was home for mid-term break. It is always fascinating and challenging to hear papers from some of the top Bible translation experts. I had a poster presentation on the different ways that possession is marked in Takwane. It turns out that Takwane is very typical of other Bantu languages. This is the kind of linguistic detail that can help make a translation much clearer and more natural.

I was involved in three other presentations. The Assistant Director of Translation and I led a discussion session on how to use Logos Bible software to do exegesis. Logos is very different than the older software that is being phased out. We had a lively discussion about how to

make the transition from one to the other and use all the exegetical resources available more effectively. There are thousands of titles available in the newer program, which can be overwhelming.

My supervisor and I delivered a paper on the new project management tools in Paratext 8. We now have the ability to tell Paratext all the steps that each book of the Bible should go through before it is considered done. Before, translation teams relied on spreadsheets, or checklists or their memories to know when everything was completed. Now that information can be tracked in the software. As the Bible translation movement evolves into a multi-partner effort, having more project tracking ability will help insure that nothing falls through the cracks and slows the translation projects down.

Mozambique

I am leaving tonight, November 2nd, for Mozambique to migrate the five translation projects there to Paratext 8 and help them specify a plan for their projects. One great thing about the new project plan features in Paratext 8 is the ability to have the mechanical checks like punctuation, formatting and spelling to run automatically. Bible translation organizations, SIL, Wycliffe and The Seed Company have decided on a 6-stage process for translation, with

discreet tasks for each stage. Below is the project plan that I will be instituting in Mozambique. It has 62 tasks and automated checks. I have only shown the tasks for the first two stages to save space.

Task/Check	Assigned to	Status
Stage 1. Drafting - Not started		
Exegesis	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	Completed: none
Keyboarding the first draft	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	Waiting for task: Exegesis
Chapter/Verse Numbers	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	1 issue
Markers	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	88 issues
Stage 2. Team Checking - Not started		
Naturalness check	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	Waiting for task: Keyboarding the first draft
Exegetical check	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	Waiting for task: Naturalness check
Proper names check	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	Completed: none
Biblical key terms check	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	Completed: none
First comprehension testing	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	Waiting for task: Biblical key terms check
First revision	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	Waiting for task: First comprehension testing
Capitalization	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	Setup required...
Repeated Words	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	✓ No issues
Characters	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	Setup required...
Punctuation	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	Setup required...
Project Notes (Para Fazer:)	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	✓ No issues
Project Notes (Conflict)	(Unassigned) LUK 1-24	✓ No issues
Stage 3. Preparing for the consultant check - Not started		
Stage 4. Consultant Check - Not started		
Stage 5. Review by the community - Not started		
Stage 6. Finalizing for Publication - Not started		

During the workshop we will go through all 62 tasks and checks with lots of hands-on time to be sure that each team can do all the tasks. Please pray that all five teams will leave knowing how to do each task.

It is hot in Mozambique, and I expect frequent power cuts. The venue does have a backup generator. Please pray that we can all manage the high temperatures and that we have electricity most of the time.

From Peg:

Thanks so much for your prayers for my healing. Recently the therapist changed my treatment slightly and we have seen an increase in tissue growth as a result. We are all very encouraged with this development. Praise the Lord with us. My low iron levels continue to be a problem. I will get two iron infusions over the next two weeks.

If you would like more frequent information and updates on my health you can find it at this link: www.caringbridge.org/visit/pegshrum

Maggie Jo has just been to Waco where she competed in the Regional Tournament with the LeTourneau Performance Flight Team. She participated in the navigation portion of the competition. The Regionals will continue all week with the results announced at a banquet on Saturday.

Until all have heard,

Jeff, Peg and Maggie Jo

If you would like to participate in our Wycliffe ministry you can give by check, bank transfer or online. Make **checks** payable to Wycliffe Bible Translators

Include a note saying:

"Preference for the Wycliffe ministry of Jeff and Peg Shrum, account #303695."

Mail checks to: Wycliffe Bible Translators, P.O. Box 628200, Orlando, Florida 32862

Give online at: www.wycliffe.org/partner/JeffandPeg

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