

Nicholas News

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Praise the Lord!

- We are building momentum in reaching more African American Churches with the vision for partnership in Bible Translation.
- Two African Americans joined Wycliffe and five African Americans are in the application process for career membership.
- One African American group is planning to visit ministries of Wycliffe in Papua New Guinea.
- Opportunities to share the vision of Wycliffe are multiplying among youth and college students.
- We welcomed the opportunity to stay home and host visitors in Orlando in February, March and April.
- Gertrude's sister Flora continues to experience stable health while she waits for a liver transplant.
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Making Wycliffe Known in Our Churches

Over the last eight months, we have sought to make Wycliffe known at conferences in Chicago, New York City, Atlanta and Los Angeles. We connected with African Americans involved in all kinds of ministries. It is an overwhelming task. Most people we meet know very little about Bible translation—but that's slowly changing. Conferences usually start about eight in the morning and run into the late hours of the night.

The Urban Outreach Conference we attended in Chicago was no different. It was great to be among the swelling crowds of worshippers and seekers of God. Ron Kenoly opened the conference with lively worship and praise. We worshipped with the special grace of black Christians in the USA. Afterward, we shared the elevator with Ron Kenoly and wondered whether there was any overlap in Dr. Kenoly's vision for reaching the world and that of the Bible Translation Movement.

Our display table was located in a strategic spot so that you would think that people couldn't help but see it as they walked by. Many passed and only glanced our way and we wondered how to really get people's attention. It happened the night that we shared our testimony. After all the great singing, and just before Dr. Billy Kyles stepped up to talk about the last hours he spent with Dr. Martin Luther King before King died, we were given five minutes to make an impact.

You know our testimony about being single and the statistical ratio of Christian men to women being one to



Dr. Billie Kyles and Kevin

seven. And you know the one about seven days, seven weeks and seven months! Just as Gertrude was about to conclude, Kevin squeezed her hand and whispered, "Our time is up." So Gertrude stopped promptly, telling the audience if they wanted to hear the rest they would have to attend our missions seminar the next morning. While the crowd roared, Billy Kyles stopped us on the way down imploring that I tell him since he would not be there the next day.

Our testimony the night before made a difference. 25-30 individuals showed up the next morning. We presented ideas on how to start a missions program in their churches as well as the ministry of Bible translation. We left the Chicago Urban Outreach Conference encouraged. In February we found out that Ron Kenoly's vision overlaps with ours. He visited the Wycliffe Word Spring Discovery Center in February and we began to consider opportunities to connect our ministries. We praise God for opportunities to build relationships with people who are eager to make Christ known in the world.

Plans for Papua New Guinea in 2003

Last year we returned from Papua New Guinea with a decision to stay home for a couple of years to assist in mobilization (recruitment). In addition, we agreed to return to Papua New Guinea for three months in 2003 in order to help local congregations develop Sunday School materials in their languages. We are encouraged that work in a few language groups has been doing well in our absence. Others need more supervision and assistance with printing books. Kevin and I plan to focus on helping

people produce and publish their Sunday School books. We plan to do this but we are dependent upon the Lord to provide the means.

We are thankful for a church group from Dallas who plan to visit Papua New Guinea in July with colleagues. Hosting such groups takes a lot of planning and team effort. Please pray for the group as they make final plans for departure to Papua New Guinea.



Gertrude with visitors at the Wycliffe Word Spring Discovery Center

A Time for Biscuits and Bonding

In Mid February Kevin's parents barely escaped a snow storm in Virginia to come to Florida for a visit. The weather was in the 60's and 70's and fair. It was so nice they stayed a few days longer. Gertrude has already won their hearts with her home-made biscuits.

It was great to show them the Wycliffe Word Spring Discovery Center. They heard so many personal testimonies of missionaries and left us with a with a clearer

impression of the work of Bible Translation and our part in it.

In April, we visited them in Powhatan, Virginia just after Mom had successful knee replacement surgery. We praise God that all went well. Wouldn't you know it? Biscuits by Gertrude were on the menu for breakfast!

We look forward to having you come for a visit us in Orlando soon. Let us know when you are coming!



Kevin's Mom, Gertrude and Kevin

Please respond to us by email, if possible, so that we may send our letters to your email address.

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Wycliffe

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Prayer Points

Please pray for

- *Wisdom in relating to the increasing number of missions minded churches and individuals.*
- *Provision of funds needed for our travel and accommodations in Papua New Guinea in July, 2003 .*
- *Wisdom in decisions to travel overseas and safety in*
- *Health and well-being of family here at home—two of Gertrude's sisters and our parents in particular.*
- *Spiritual/physical health, strength, prosperity of our friends and supporters.*
- *Progress of current Bible translation projects in the languages of New Ireland*

travel at home and abroad.

Province, PNG.

- *Salvation of unsaved family members.*
- *Wisdom in presenting the vision of 'Bible translation to pastors and churches.*

In His service,

Kevin and Gertrude