

# Nicholas News

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## *My Studies at Dallas Seminary*

**T**hanks to all who encouraged me when I shared about my desire to go to seminary. I had my doubts because it has been a long time since I was in any formal education setting. I'm majoring in Cross-Cultural Ministries. For the fall semester I took five classes that totaled to 13 credit hours. It was quite challenging with all the reading and the papers to write. I felt stretched academically, spiritually and physically. The Lord certainly provided me with the strength that I needed to accomplish the work set before me. Part of my *Spiritual Life* class included physical fitness program. Gertrude and I would go to the fitness center three times a week. We both feel better for it. Lately we have not been able to keep this schedule up, but we work at it. I have been so blessed by the classes I have taken. All the professors that I have studied with thus far are excellent. They have such a

wealth of knowledge. Many of them have authored the books that we are using. I am pleased to report that I am doing better than I expected. I finished my first semester with A's and B's, giving me a 3.39 grade point average.

One of the exciting things that's happening while we are here, is the chance share with fellow students about the opportunities for involvement in Wycliffe. There is a young man that has been in a few of my classes who is very interested in getting involved in missions. He calls me, "Uncle Kevin." Gertrude and I have opened our home to students like him to share our story and to encourage them however we can. I miss being more involved in mobilization with Gertrude, but I know that I am accomplishing what the Lord desires for me at this time.

—Kevin



### Praise the Lord!

- Kevin's studies are going well.
- We rejoice with all the new contacts that we have been able to make.
- We were able to attend the Gullah N.T. dedication just outside Charlotte, NC.
- Go Global Reality Mission DVD is being aired on nine TV stations in USA.
- One recruit is progressing well towards membership with Wycliffe.
- The Lord continues to provide for us—keeping our car running, financial obligations and more than enough ministry opportunities.
- We have spiritual vitality in the midst of very busy schedules.
- We have faithful supporters.

## *African American Mobilization*

**H**elp us to pray to the Lord of the harvest, to send out more laborers. Over the past five years I have served Wycliffe USA as Director of African American Mobilization. When I started out in 2000, all we had was a desk in a small office at the Wycliffe USA headquarters in Orlando and a very small budget to make things happen. I was my sole human resource until Kevin came along in 2001. Today, we are part of a virtual team of mobilizers located around the USA.

Some of them are Wycliffe members, while others are church mission directors, or partners from other mission organizations and corporations. It is exciting to see God raise up African Americans in strategic places to recruit

and to go to the mission field. Lately I discovered more African Americans serving with Wycliffe Associates, a volunteer organization of Wycliffe. When we moved to Dallas, I found that the Lord had raised up an African American recruiter for the Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics—where we train missionary linguists. More doors are opening for us to speak at student conferences and on college campuses and for mentoring new recruits. In January of this year Wycliffe USA held its first Mobilization Convention. Although, I was one

of two African Americans attending, I enjoyed reuniting with some Wycliffe mobilizers and meeting others for the first time. Again, I discovered that the Lord was allowing more of my colleagues to meet and mentor African



*Continued on the next page.*

*African American Mobilization, Continued*

American recruits in addition to collaborating with pastors. In one of the workshops I attended, the topic was about the 'new paradigm in missions.' Wycliffe leadership worldwide recognizes the changing face of missionaries. There is greater ethnic diversity on today's foreign mission field. It was said that over fifty percent of today's missionaries are non-white. Not only that, but the mission needs overseas are requiring fewer independent individuals and more teams working together to get mission tasks done. Even the personality types of missionaries going with Wycliffe are changing. Not only are introverted, academic types needed to go to do Bible translation but extroverted, relational types

are needed to make sure the Scriptures are used and disciples are made. So, what has that to do with African American Mobilization. Everything! Increasingly, people in other countries are asking, "Where are the African Americans? Why don't more of African Americans come to help us?" Why indeed?! African Americans have "a charge to keep, a calling to fulfill" on a global scale. God has given the African American Church what today's mission field needs to make a difference. Kevin and I praise God for what he is going to do with African American Christians in the Bible translation movement. We look forward to more people of color in the harvest. Help us praise Him now for the victory!

—Gertrude

**Atlanta 2005**

**N**ow that I am studying at Dallas Seminary I do not get much opportunity to travel with Gertrude. How she misses me on her many trips! There is no one there to open doors or carry bags for her. She is often reminded of how I spoil her when we travel together. During the week after Christmas we went to a four-day conference sponsored by Intervarsity Christian Fellowship and their Black Campus Ministries. Black students attended from all over the USA. We had an exciting time speaking with students about the work of Wycliffe Bible Translators.



Many students stopped by our display table to talk about opportunities to get involved. One thing we like about going to conferences like Atlanta 2005 is the opportunity to visit with friends from other ministries. Even among them we were able to give some guidance for possible ministry with Wycliffe. We praise the Lord for good follow-up responses from three students, but we continue to lift all these contacts up in prayer that they would know God's will. Of course, we desire to see them join us in the work of Bible translation.

—Kevin

**Wycliffe** 

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

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**For financial gifts, please indicate in writing your interest in the ministry of:**  
Gertrude and Kevin Nicholas

**Write the check to:**  
Wycliffe Bible Translators  
P.O. Box 628200  
Orlando FL 32862-8200

**Prayer Points**

**Prosperity and blessing**  
*on our partners in Bible Translation. That's you!*

**Don and Sharon Hutchisson**  
*as they complete translation of the Sursurunga New Testament in Papua New Guinea. Pray for Ben and Sian.*

**Fruitfulness in ministry**  
*resulting in an increase in African Americans going to the mission field. We are praying for 24 career members this year.*

**Continued support and prayers**  
*of our financial partners as we seek to involve others in Bible translation.*

**Salvation of unsaved family members;** *health and strength of our parents and siblings.*

**Our spiritual and physical stamina** *in both of our families.*

**Health of Gertrude's mother:** *pain from back injury.*

**Kevin as he continues studies at Dallas Theological Seminary.**

**Training of lay-representatives** *in six Wycliffe regions around USA.*

**Safety in travel—in the USA.**

**Feedback from mission-minded churches** *—that they will begin to send missionaries, pray for and give to Bible translation projects.*

**Opportunities to recruit and mentor DTS students** *from Kevin's classes as well as people living in married students' housing.*

**Full recovery for Flora.** *—challenged to keep potassium levels stable with anti-rejection medicines.*

**Wisdom in approaching new ministry opportunities** *among churches in this area of the USA.*

**Gertrude as she focuses 100% of her time in recruitment** *throughout the USA, especially in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Arkansas.*

**Thank you for partnering with us ...**

**...in His service,**

**Kevin and Gertrude**