

...to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.
Ephesians 4:12

CONSTRUCTIVE WORD

The Esala Prayer Letter---November 2006

Dear Partners in Christ,

'Tis the season to celebrate gifts. There are so many gifts to rejoice over in 2006.



Jesus Christ

He is the Word of life and foundation of the work of Bible translation in Ghana. We do what we do with the hope and prayer that **the Komba will know that God speaks their language, helping them embrace the gift of Jesus, his death and resurrection.**



Answered Prayers

- We asked you to pray for the many transitions and adjustments that we anticipated during our time in the U.S. Once again we've been stretched, but overall, life these past months has been rich in memories and encouragement.
- We asked you to pray for the safe arrival of our third child and Aili Esther is now part of our family.☺
- We asked you to pray that the Komba would value work in their heart language and we're thrilled to share that we can see that this is happening. Keep reading to discover more.



Fruit in our Work

David Federwitz, who's the literacy expert for our project, has worked hard to get the literacy part of the program off the ground. He's been working with our volunteers to develop a primer during our absence; it's helped a few people see how valuable having their language written down can be. So here's a praise report.

Emmanuel, our head translator, has been teaching adult literacy classes for some time. He teaches the people how to read another Ghanaian language, because that's the language in which they have materials. Unfortunately not many people achieve success in learning to read through these types of classes. Emmanuel decided to try out the new Komba primer in his class.

After using the primer he came back to David excitedly and said, "I didn't think it could happen. People are actually learning to read." In my mind I think—of course people can learn to read. But for most Komba, who have had to do it in a language other than their heart language, learning to read has been an almost insurmountable challenge. **We pray that Emmanuel's realization would further spur him and the other volunteers to be diligent in the work God has called them to.**

To further echo this success, a woman from the literacy class stopped by the office and gave a donation of money to the project saying, “I am learning to read! Use it so this work can continue.” Literacy has “clicked” for her. **Praise God with us for these tastes of success and pray that more Komba would catch the vision and “own” this work that is taking place among them.**



We get to go back to Ghana with new missionaries

January will find us shopping and packing and boarding the plane (on the 16th). **Keep praying for safety and good health as we travel and assimilate back into Ghana culture.**

Pray for wisdom as we step into a more hands-on role with the Komba work again. We are delighted that Nathan’s mom will accompany us to help in the first month of transition—there’s so much to do!

Upon our arrival we will be assisting in the orientation of Paul, Ali, and Hannah Federwitz who are new LBT missionaries. **Pray for all of us in this process, but especially for the Federwitz family who will want to know everything immediately but will have to surrender to time and experience in many areas.**

In the name of Jesus Christ, God’s perfect gift to us,

Nathan, Sarah, Karissa, Annaka, and Aili Esala

*Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.
James 1:17*

Contributions

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