TRANSLATION *Matters*

WORKING AS ONE FOR GOD'S GLORY

We hope that you had a wonderful holiday season and a blessed Christmas with family and friends. May God's goodness and mercy follow you in 2017. It is a brand new year and we are excited about what God has in store for us, as individuals and as an organisation.

Our team at Wycliffe South Africa is talented and diverse - at least 7 countries and 6 languages are represented at our weekly team meetings! We share a passion to see the truth of God's Word transforming individuals and communities as they receive it in their own heart language. Our numbers in the office ebb and flow, with many people travelling in and out on an ongoing basis. We pray constantly for visas to be granted, safe passage and fruitful meetings. We keep our eyes on the goal of Vision 2025 – starting a translation in every language that needs it by 2025 – 9 years to go and counting!



Wycliffe team with family and friends at our Christmas party on 15 December 2016



Colouring in Christmas decorations



Catching up with Language Assessment Consultant, Linda Jordan (middle), visiting from Angola



Delicious buffet lunch with food from different nations



On 6 January 2017, we had the wonderful opportunity to recognise the pioneering work of Mary (front middle) and the late Tony Williams, who established Wycliffe Bible Translators in South Africa in 1974

SHARING THE GOSPEL BY TELLING STORIES

Have you ever wanted to find a way to share the good news of the Gospel with people who will not read a Bible or come to church? Telling Bible stories is an effective tool to reach these people. Over November and December 2016, Wycliffe ran six workshops in South Africa (Marble Hall, Limpopo; Edenvale, Kempton Park and Linden in Gauteng; Potchefstroom in North West Province and Sasolburg in the Free State) and two workshops in Zimbabwe (Bulawayo and Harare).

The workshops taught participants how to craft, tell and teach Bible stories that are simple, accurate and memorable, and how to find easy ways to build them into daily conversations. Malcolm Barker and Peter Wellauer from Wycliffe Australia led the workshops, supported by a group of enthusiastic volunteers.



"Stories like Zacchaeus climbing up a sycamore tree, Jesus calming the storm and Rahab helping the Israelite spies, came to life as we learned new ways of crafting Bible stories, by making them simple, accurate and memorable. It was a joy to be a part of the workshops in Marble Hall, Potchefstroom, Edenvale, Kempton Park and Sasolburg. We had students from age 8 to age 70+. Everyone could benefit from the practical training to use Bible stories as a way to engage with others and to share Christ in a lively, non-confrontational manner. We hope to continue these courses in many churches throughout South Africa and hopefully even other countries in the region!"

Lindsey Trusler, Volunteer Facilitator



"From now on I will tell Bible stories to the women in my prison ministry, especially since many of them are not good at reading and analysing texts."

Esmari Potgieter, Potchefstroom

"I was joyfully equipped to teach Scripture in a new, fresh way, to both literate and illiterate people. I am going to use this wonderful tool in my youth group, and may become a facilitator in a cell group or for other ministries."

Cornel Mileham, Potchefstroom





"I now feel confident and prepared to tell Bible stories to children and adults that are accurate to the Word."

Louisa Gunter, Potchefstroom









"I have met new friends for life and really enjoyed telling my Bible story in the marketplace."
Helei Jooste, Sasolburg

"I was really excited to go out and tell people stories about Jesus."
Jans Brits, Sasolburg



"Stories are the main way we pass on cultural values. If you can change the stories, you can change the values. It is a beautiful privilege to watch people come alive to the value of telling Bible stories!"
Laura Dyer, Volunteer Facilitator





Busani Mcingolwane (on the left in photo alongside) is a lecturer at a Bible School in Johannesburg. Originally from Zimbabwe, he arranged the workshops there, and found it to be a worthwhile experience teaching the Bible storytelling principles to Zimbabwean pastors. He sees great potential in the workshops for pastors from other African countries, whose congregations are mostly oral.



"Frieda Redelinghuys, an Afrikaans participant in Sasolburg, was about 10 years old when she volunteered to read a passage from the Bible in her English class at school. She read a word incorrectly, and the teacher and whole class laughed and made fun of her. It was such a hurtful experience that she made a decision never to read the Bible or to pray in English ever again. During the workshop, she crafted her story in Afrikaans. On the one morning, she was waiting in the car for her daughter at the shopping mall. She heard God prompt her to tell the car guard the story she was working on. Reluctantly she said to the car guard, "I do not have money to give you, but I can tell you a story". Frieda told the story, translating on the fly into English. The car guard enjoyed the story so much that she called her three friends over, and Frieda told the story a second time in English. The workshop helped her to face her fear head on, and she also received healing in the process."
Sarel van der Merwe, Volunteer Facilitator

AFRICA ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF PEDALLING

It was a beautiful, sunny day on Sunday, 20 November 2016, as cyclists hit the road for the 20th edition of the Telkom 947 Cycle Challenge. Our Africa Alive team had 27 riders, all of whom completed the race. Funds raised by the team will go to supporting the Tonga Bible Translation Project in Zimbabwe. Wycliffe extends heartfelt thanks to the cyclists, supporters, volunteers and sponsors who helped to make the race day a roaring success.



Wycliffe's giant Bible Man (Sipho Twala), crossed the finish line, cheered on by supporters and fellow team members, Brandon Evans and Leo Bird



Marvin Oliver, team captain and Board member of Wycliffe, completed the course not once, but twice – now that's going the extra mile



A focused and determined Karen Floor, Wycliffe CEO, riding for a purpose close to her heart



Our hardworking volunteers preparing refreshments for passing cyclists



Great view of our Africa Alive cycle shirt from the back

Photos in this newsletter by Ansie van der Merwe, Jennifer Sophie, Laura Dyer, Lindsey Trusler and Roy Tibbit

HELP SAVE TREES

We are constantly updating our database, so if any of your details are going to change, please let us know. If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via email (and save some trees in the process), please send a request to nicola_king@wycliffe.org.za.

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BIBLE TRANSLATION

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