

The Word of God -

In their hands -

and upon their hearts

Weber - LBTC Cameroon prayer letter

March 2018



Dear Praying Partners,

Thank you for continuing with us in ministry in Cameroon! We are called to not just “do ministry” but also - actually mainly – to support others in ministry. We do that by Envisioning, Empowering, Equipping, Enabling and Encouraging mother-tongue translators and others to bring the Word to their own people in their mother tongue, through translating, teaching literacy classes, or by leading oral Bible Study groups.

Recently Pastor Daniel Touka, our colleague and Director of the Lutheran Church’s translation and literacy programs, called together more than forty workers from seven different languages for a serious spiritual retreat. We and four other speakers participated with him to help lead the retreat.

John 12:24 was the theme: ***Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.***

Jesus’ own incredible commitment to us went all the way to a painful, shameful death – to “fall into the earth and die” – so that He could “bear much fruit”. Through His death and resurrection He brings life to many. We must consider what it means for each of us to “take up our cross and follow” Him. Following Him means dying to ourselves, letting go of certain things in our own lives.



As the retreat was winding up, Martin invited retreat participants to share how God is working in their lives, and reflect on: **“What needs to die in me?”**

Pastor Betrosse: The Bible studies touched me like a hammer. The hole of laziness is a deep one to fall into. We must work hard for the sake of God’s Name, together as servants of Jesus.



Jerome: I am aware of my weaknesses. Pray that God change my life, that I would really obey Him. Pray that any disobedience to God’s Word die in me.



Alice:

I was touched by the teaching “The Life of a Disciple”. I realize my own weaknesses - being critical of my parents, and talking too much. Pray that the argumentative spirit will die in me.



Joseph:

Our language committee had no money to send us to the retreat. Our coordinator said, “We will still go!” My wife sold her gunny sack of peanuts, so I could come here.



I was struck by the words of the National Bishop. “Before you die, do something to leave for others!” How can we best understand God’s Word? By hearing it in our own languages! We see the fruit of listening to God’s Word. What is better than that to leave for others!

Since the retreat participants returned home, several told Pastor Touka that they have started new prayer groups and see God answering prayers. PRAISE GOD!



Charles (Chariman of the Fali Language Committee): “I realized that we can neglect the service of God through distractions and bad attitudes. It was good to share mutual problems, since we are not alone in our struggles and weaknesses. I remember the teaching on prayer: *Without prayer, nothing of lasting importance is accomplished.*

Please pray that the Fali Bible will be realized! We are very anxious to see progress. Since 2008 I began to work with DTA. The community is still waiting!

Thanks be to God! Missionaries are coming this month who will work with us Fali!”

The Fali men at the retreat were very excited, and are more than eager to welcome Eliot and Serena Derricks with their two little girls, coming from the US March 18th!

We also eagerly welcome the Derricks as LBT co-workers in Cameroon, and will be helping them get oriented to life in Africa, and in our area.

Kwanjas on a Cross Cultural Missions Trip

Laurent and Lukas continue to follow up the Kwanja Scripture listening program. But their outreach is expanding beyond their own people. After the retreat, they traveled two days by bush taxi and motorcycle (partly over rough trails) to meet with Samba people FAR from the Kwanja homeland. They returned excited that the Samba Christians are learning to use the Mega-Voice players to listen to and share the Samba New Testament with their people.



THANK YOU also for providing players for God’s Word in their languages!

“**Come aside and rest a while,**” Jesus said to His disciples. The LBT West Africa Retreat on Jan. 16th - 21st provided a rest from our regular responsibilities. LBT / LBTC missionaries separated by countries and distances enjoyed the rare opportunity of sharing together in God’s Word, prayer and fellowship in our heart language, English! The retreat missionaries work in Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. A Canadian mission team blessed the children with child care activities! Rev. Dr. James Keller and Rev. Dr. Glen Schaeffer led worship and Bible study well.

For contributions:
(Please designate for Weber-Cameroon ministry)
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To contribute online:
www.canadahelps.org

Weber family reunion in Cameroon

All three of our children (Nathan, Sammy and Sarah) came together during the first half of February, a first in over five years. We enjoyed being with them, their spouses and friend, and our three busy grandkids. Playing together for the first time were (l to r): Keturah, Zeke and Caleb Weber.



What needs to die in me so I can better serve the Lord?

For Joan, she has a different answer than most. Loa-loa filaria (“the African eye worm”) recently flared up again. She is again taking the nasty medical treatment: “DEC” pills for 4 weeks, a nasty “poison” that kills most of the under-the-skin worms.

Please PRAY that

- The filaria parasites will ALL die this time!
- Joan’s vision will be preserved, and renewed
- We die to ourselves, to live for Jesus, that He may bear much fruit as we serve Him in Cameroon
- The Lord will intervene in the Dowayo and Vute team situations

May the Victory of Jesus’ death and Resurrection show in all of our hearts and lives!

Love in Him,
 Martin & Joan Weber

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