

MISSION TO THE LELE WITH THE GEBHARDS IN WEST AFRICA

JUNE 2018

Help us make transformed lives a reality!

As we look to the second half of 2018 and into next year, we have made some God-sized goals.

1. Finish exegetical checking for Luke by end of 2018.
2. Finish exegetical corrections for Luke 12-18 by April 2019.
3. Begin village comprehension checking of Luke 1-6 by April 2019.
4. Exegetically check at least 10 Psalms by April 2019.
5. Work on exegetical checking for Genesis 1-12.



Gebhard family: Marc, Tina, David, Sarah, Grace and Timothy.

6. Increase financial giving to a sustaining level for the rest of 2018.
7. Get David and Sarah established in college starting in Fall of 2018.
8. Marc takes Greek class for translators in Fall of 2018.
9. Tina learns basics of Paratext software and begins helping fix punctuation, indenting and other problems in Psalms and Genesis.

We are putting a heavy emphasis on progress for the Lele Bible translation. This doesn't mean that we're stopping community development. Drilling wells and improving people's living situation are still important.

In fact, having God's Word in the local language will have a transforming impact on the way we drill wells and do other work. The Word transforms lives and communities for the long term.

God's message transforms the way pastors preach and the way

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

HEALTH Please pray for Marc as he has been dealing with some low energy and discouragement in recent weeks. Pray that God would restore his health and give him the strength he needs for his work.

TRANSLATION PROGRESS Praise God for more progress in the translation. We're now working on accuracy checking in Luke 20-24. Pray for God's extra empowering for the task at hand. Pray for Jonas as he continues working on Esther and Pierre as he continues working on the Psalms.

GEBHARD CHILDREN Keep praying for our kids as they pursue their educational goals in the months to come—especially college decisions for David and Sarah.

SPIRITUAL PROTECTION Pray that God would surround our whole Lele translation team with his angels of protection. Pray for God's strength for each member of our translation team and for their families.

PRAYER

mothers and fathers treat their children. It transforms the way local communities share resources and help each other. It transforms schools and medical systems.

The inspired Word of God has the power to transform entire societies. What would your neighborhood look like if no one had heard the simple idea of "Love you neighbor as yourself"?

In our village neighborhood, many haven't yet heard. The situation is sad. Big kids beat up little kids to take away their food. Stronger adults lie and cheat to take resources from weaker adults.

Looking at our village clinic gives a small glimpse of the hellish conditions that play out when people don't follow the simple concept of loving their neighbor.

Years ago, an aid organization came and built nice sanitary latrines at the clinic, but no one in the village would humble themselves for the task of cleaning them. Now the doors to the latrine are boarded up.

The clinic has nice things—cabinets, tables and beds, but no one keeps those clean either. Women give birth to their babies on the dirty floor instead. There are no sheets and no towels to clean up messes.

A company was paid to dig a well next to the clinic, but no one supervised them. They only dug about 6 meters—not deep enough for water all year. They installed a nice pump and got paid a huge sum...but the shallow well doesn't give water much of the year.

We're giving you the edited version of the situation but you get the idea. The conditions are bad. What if people just really latched on to that concept of loving one's neighbor? Would they respect and look out for the needs of one another a bit more? Would well-diggers do honest work? Would people more willingly share resources instead of stealing from each other?

God is raising up new Lele believers to share the good news of Jesus among their neighbors. For those servants to be effective they need to understand that message and be able to share it with others. The message was not meant to be kept a secret. The message should be shared in order to transform everything it touches.

Please pray for God's provisions for good progress in the Bible translation over the next several months as we work to meet these goals for our work and family.

Financial Snapshot

Thank you again for your continued support of our work with Pioneer Bible Translators. As you can see, ministry work funds are at a pretty low level. We're still trying to pay for past repairs on our field vehicle as well as continue ministry work right now.

As we look to the coming months, we are looking at some additional expenses. Marc would like to take a Greek refresher class at the Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics this fall and we are planning another trip to the field in January to continue checking and correcting Bible portions. Any extra contributions in the next few months would help make these dreams reality.

Fund (End of May 2018)	Available
Ministry Work Funds	\$2,141.95
Guest House Construction Fund	\$1,103.52
Vehicle Replacement Fund	\$10,897.93
Village Wells and Sanitation	\$4,601.56
Lele Literature	\$6,127.74
Lele Church Development Fund	\$504.69
Disaster Relief	\$1,199.10

Will you help?

Will you help spread the truth about God's kingdom with our Lele neighbors in West Africa?

We are seeking new partners and partnering churches for this work. Your prayers and dedicated financial support are vital for the continuation of this ministry in the coming months.

For online donations:

www.pioneerbible.org/MarcAndTinaGebhard



Thank you for your part in the mission to reach the Lele. Alternatively, donations can be made out to "Pioneer Bible Translators" and sent to:

PBT- Gebhard
P.O. Box 10184
Terre Haute, IN 47801



Our names should not appear on tax-deductible checks.