



MISSION TO THE LELE WITH THE GEBHARDS IN WEST AFRICA

NOVEMBER 2018

No easy ride!

Pray for perseverance during the mission.

By Marc

Some days you find yourself looking for an easier way. You're tired of pedaling uphill and you're desperate for some relief.

If we're honest, we all have days when the mountain range in front of us looks too big to traverse. We are facing some uphill parts of the road right now and we would really appreciate your prayers.

We're looking at a time coming very soon when half of our family will be staying in the US while the

other half lives in a remote village in West Africa. Our kids are making big decisions about where to live and what career paths to take. How will it work for three of our kids to live in the US while their parents are overseas?

We've got some pretty ambitious plans for this next year as we're hoping to publish the book of Luke and finish a substantial part of checking work on the book of Genesis.

Jonas and Pierre plan to visit different Lele villages this month to begin comprehension checking on the first several chapters of Luke. They are asking how they are going to find people willing to give up their day to help check Bible verses instead of working in their fields. How will that work?

While we have over 60% of the New Testament in rough draft now, we still have much work to do with punctuation, spelling conventions,

Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty.

Proverbs 21:5 (NLT)

SPIRITUAL PROTECTION Pray for God's protection for us as we travel, manage the Lele Bible translation and make decisions affecting our family the next few years. Pray against the enemy who always tries to distract us from the mission.

FINANCE Upcoming travel and ongoing cost of living are big concerns. While we've finally caught up paying off repair debt on our vehicle in West Africa, we're still trying to pay back some US medical debt and plan for dental expenses. Pray for God's provisions in the months to come as we plan more trips to West Africa to keep the Bible translation work moving forward.

TRANSLATION PROGRESS

Pierre continues working on Psalm 119 while Jonas continues on the Romans draft. Praise God that Tina has been able to give more time to helping with formatting corrections in Genesis.

GEBHARD CHILDREN Pray for Timothy, David, Sarah and Grace as they navigate present and future work and education.

PRAYER



Pierre continues on the Psalms translation.

accuracy checking and comprehension checking. Then there's the huge problem of literacy! Very few Lele villagers can read yet. How do we get an effective literacy program going to teach them?

Our resources and team seem so small and the task seems so large. Financial contributions are barely keeping up with our expenses and that has been a bit discouraging the past few weeks—especially as we plan more trips to the field this next year.

We need your prayers as our team faces these big challenges in the days to come. Pray for God to provide and to sustain our strength as we continue climbing this mountain of the Lele Bible translation work in West Africa.

Pray especially for Jonas and Pierre as they interact in mostly unreached villages to see if people can understand the translated text of Luke. Pray that those village comprehension checks will be fruitful in helping us to sharpen and clarify our translation. Pray also that those village visits will open doors to people wanting to know more about God's Word.

Thank you again for being part of this work. We can't do this without your faithful prayers and contributions to our work with Pioneer Bible Translators. May God bless your efforts.



Village friends watching the Jesus film. Thanks go to Good News Productions International for contributing the projector. We look forward to the day we can get the audio translated into Lele.

Upcoming Schedule

November 14-18, 2018 Marc and Tina at the International Conference On Missions in Cincinnati, Ohio

November and December 2018 Marc and Tina focus on correction, formatting and exegetical checking work in Genesis and Psalms. Comprehension check for Luke begins.

January 7, 2019 Marc and Tina travel to W. Africa.

January 10-Jan 22, 2019 Marc and Tina work with Lele colleagues in village on scripture correction work—focusing on Luke, Psalms and Genesis.

January 25-26, 2019 Consultant session focusing on Luke and the Psalms and perhaps first chapters of Genesis.

January 28-Feb 2, 2019 Bible translation workshop with in West Africa with nationals—focusing on poetry in Scripture.

February 6, 2019 Marc and Tina travel back to US.

February-June 2019 Focus on formatting and exegetical check on Genesis. Pierre finishes 1 Peter draft. Jonas finishes Romans draft. Marc and Tina visit supporting churches.

Summer/Fall 2019 Marc and Tina plan to travel back to field.

Winter 2019-20 Publish Luke, initial correction work on Genesis.

GIVING

As we look to doing more traveling in the months to come, we are needing an extra boost right now. Your help is appreciated. 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 to "Pioneer Bible Translators" can be mailed to:

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Our names should not appear on tax-deductible checks.