

# Give thanks, the Lord is good

*We all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done! -Acts 2:11*

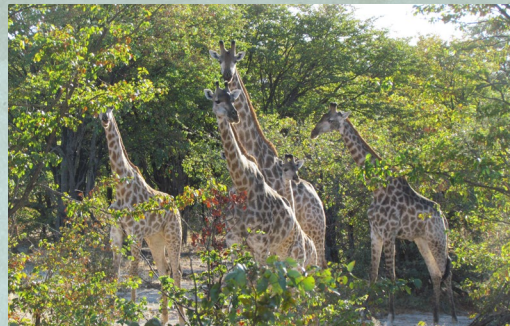
We have many things to be thankful for in our new home! Join us in praising God for His goodness and faithfulness!



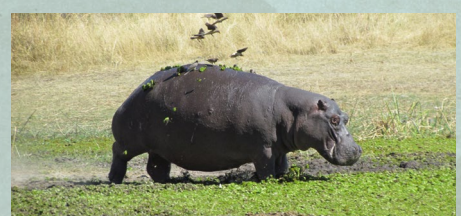
Our work and residence permits came through in the nick of time. We were granted 5 years in the country, which is the best we could have hoped for!



The kids are loving their new schools. Matshwane International Primary School for MaryJane, Audrey, and Judah and Woodland Day Care for Gideon and Isaac. School and day care are affordable and high-quality. This blessing is so important to our family's health.



We took the kids on a game drive to Moremi Game Reserve to celebrate getting our permits. As our guide said, we had a National Geographic quality day!



## Our Bible Translation and Engagement Work

Now that we have our work permits, we have begun to dive into our Bible Translation and Scripture Engagement work as well. We are trying to take it slow, as we want to focus mainly on learning language and culture for now.

Fortunately, the missionaries before us, the local Bible Society, the local translators, and the Advisory Committee have great systems in place that allow work to continue, even when we're not working to our full capacity yet. Carl is working to find a rhythm in his work as exegete for both projects. (Exegete means one who pulls meaning from the original languages for the benefit of the

translation). The translators are talented and hardworking. Carl's work is already helping them find more accurate, beautiful, and clear ways to express God's word in their own languages.

Our United Bible Society consultant will be here at the end of August to check some of the portions of scripture that both the Shekgalagari and Shiyeyi teams have drafted. Immediately following that, we will participate in a training for the next version of Paratext, the translation software we use. Technology in Bible translation is truly amazing. We are so thankful for these tools!

All of this amazing translation work is

only effective, though, if it can get into the hands and hearts of the local language community. Distribution of materials is complicated and difficult. Communicating the value of heart-language scripture resources can also be difficult, especially as both people groups are widespread geographically.

Scripture engagement is also benefiting from amazing technological tools. Kelsey is busy learning to build scripture apps for smartphones and studying effective distribution strategies, so we can help get God's word into people's hands and hearts in a sustainable, effective way.



## What's coming next?

**August 10** - School term 2 ends

**August 13-14** - Shekgalagari Advisory Committee meeting in Kang and checking in at the Kang office

**August 15-18** - Grulkes in Gaborone visiting the Bible Society and Lutheran church offices

**August 23-27** - Kalanga Bible Launch in Francistown

**August 27-31** - United Bible Society consultant checking for Shekgalagari and Shiyeyi in Maun

**September 3-7** - Paratext 8 (translation software) training for all Botswana Bible translators in Maun

**September 4** - Happy birthday Kelsey!

**September 11** - School term 3 begins

**September 29** - Happy birthday Gideon & Isaac!

**We still need your help** to reach our 2018 goal! We are just **\$600/month** away from being fully funded. Will you consider an ongoing gift to support our work in Botswana? Your gifts make an **impact** in our work!

### MONTHLY SUPPORT GOAL

93%

100%

## Support our ministry!

**Pray:** We need people praying for us as we are in Botswana. Look above for specifics!

**Give:** We need the financial support of our partners to make our ministry in Botswana possible. Your financial gifts make it possible for us to budget and plan for our future in the field, especially the ongoing, regular gifts you generously give. You can give a tax-deductible gift online at **lbt.org** or mail checks with **Grulke Ministry** in the memo line to Lutheran Bible Translators, P.O. Box 789, Concordia, MO 64020

**Advocate:** We need people to support us in raising awareness for our ministry. You can share the mission of LBT with your church or friends and invite them to follow our journey too!

If you would prefer to NOT receive future emails or letters, or would like ADDITIONAL information on LBT and missionary support, please contact us to have your name removed from our list.

## Trust in the Lord and do good

As we continue to settle in, make Maun home, and begin work on the translation projects, God is teaching us to continue to trust Him. It is easy for me to focus in on what needs to "get done" rather than focusing on who I am or how I am doing it. Psalm 37 has been on my heart a lot lately. Especially verse 3. "Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness." God often calls us just to BE; not to ACT faithfully, but to BE faithful. To trust in His timing and His plans, rather than our own ideas, no matter how good our intentions are. In addition to Bible translation work, God is calling us to dwell in the land, in Maun, Botswana. To raise our children, cook our meals, go to church, and meet new friends. We are called to know God and be his people here in this new land, not just perform for God. Our highest purpose here on earth (any of us, not just missionaries) is to BE God's people. To seek Him, trust Him, and dwell wherever He has planted us. Pray that God would help us keep that in perspective.

## Language and culture learning

Studying Setswana can feel like drinking from a fire hose sometimes! We are learning so much so quickly. The most important learning tool we have is just to jump into conversations, even though we might make mistakes or not be able to understand everything.

We are learning to laugh at ourselves. The phrases "Ke santse ke ithuta Setswana" (I am still learning Setswana) and "Ke a leka" (I am trying) go a long way in letting people know we are serious about learning their language and culture.



Our Setswana tutor, Beauty Bogwasi. She is such a blessing to us as we learn this new language and culture.

## Prayer requests for our family:

August and September are busy months for us and for the projects! Pray for our health, stress levels, and appropriate down time.

Thanksgiving for the kids adjusting well to school here and a successful Term 2. Pray for the kids and their school, Matshwane, as Term 3 begins.

Pray for God's guidance as we discuss Scripture engagement strategies and ideas with our teams. Pray that God would guide our priorities and actions.

Pray for our local translators and Carl's role as exegete. Pray that God guides them to a comfortable and effective work rhythm and that God would grant them a new passion and excitement for the work.

## Follow our journey!

[www.thegrulkes.org](http://www.thegrulkes.org)



The Grulkes' LBT Adventures

## Contact us!

[carl-kelsey.grulke@lbt.org](mailto:carl-kelsey.grulke@lbt.org)

By Mail: PO Box Ha 137 HAK  
Maun, Botswana



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**GOD'S WORD**  
for every language