



Carl and Kelsey GRULKE

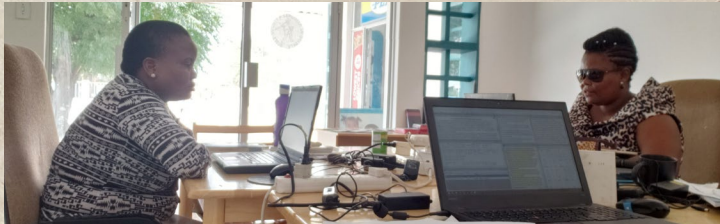
MaryJane, Audrey, Judah, Gideon & Isaac

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



June 2019 Update

Praising God for progress!



We have so much to report! Both projects are progressing and we are thanking God for His blessing and guidance. The Shekgalagari project is making progress in team review and community checking. More and more of the New Testament is ready for approval by our United Bible Societies consultant. The Advisory Committee and Bible Society of Botswana are starting to talk about dates for publication and the official launch of the New Testament. Pray that progress would continue and that God would grant clarity and vision regarding the completion of the New Testament and the launch.



The Shiyeyi project is making great strides as well. The translators attended the Wayeyi cultural festival in April, where several key connections were made, leading to the first Advisory Committee meeting in 3 years. On May 18th, the Advisory Committee recommitted their time and energy to the New Testament translation and made key decisions that had been holding the project up. Pray that this development would lead to renewed excitement and vigor amongst the translation team and Wayeyi community.

“Muddy”

We have been learning about weather in our recent language lessons. Turns out, weather is one of those universal easy topics of conversation!

Everyone loves to lament how hot or cold it is. One lesson, we learned the term for “muddy.” **Seretse**. This word stuck out to me because I remembered that it is the name of the first president of Botswana. My first reaction was “why would anyone name their child ‘muddy’?” In my culture, muddy means dirty. We have idioms like “don’t muddy the waters,” and “his name is mud.” In Botswana, though, “muddy” has a connotation of the glue or cement that holds everything together. Mud is used to hold traditional houses together. Seretse Khama, the first president, was named “Muddy” because he was born at a time of conflict between important families and the hope was that he would bring the families together.



This type of language and cultural knowledge is very important to Bible translation. How do we decide when to translate a concept literally and when to use an idiom? First and foremost, we rely on the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Second, we rely on our local translators and local community members. They understand their own language and culture better than we ever could. We do multiple stages of checking the translated Scripture to make sure that the concepts, not just the words, are getting across. Third, we rely on our training in translation and exegesis to know where sticky issues could come up and make sure we address them. Pray for the Holy Spirit’s clear guidance as we translate God’s word.

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GIVING: <https://lbt.org/project/rev-carl-kelsey-grulke/>



What's coming next?

May 27-29 Team checking the epistles with Shekgalagari translators

June 11-14 Community Review workshop with Shekgalagari community in Hukuntsi

June 17 Happy Birthday Audrey!

June 18 Carl's brother Caleb and his wife Kelsey arrive for a visit

July 22-26 Consultant checking with United Bible Societies consultant

August 9 School term 2 ends for kids

August 12 Shekgalagari Advisory Committee Meeting

August 18 Wayeyi Advisory Committee Meeting

August 13-16 Shekgalagari Community Review workshop in Kang

August 17-22 Grulkes visit Bible Society main office in Gaborone



Our kids love to play with the other kids at our church here in Maun.

These workshops are the heart of the translation projects where we go out into the communities and connect with the people who speak these languages, the ones who will actually be **using** these Bibles when finished. Pray for these workshops!

Prayer requests for our family

Praise God for the progress being made in both projects.

Pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to guide our translation work, strategic decisions, and scripture engagement efforts.

Pray that we would find a good balance between work and family life.

Praise God for Judah's swift recovery from a very serious infection.

Praise God for the great conference Kelsey attended in April.

Pray for the country of Botswana; we are in a serious drought.

Pray that God would continue to raise up supporters of our ministry

How you can help

PRAY We need people praying for each of us, our family, the projects, the translators, the people here in Botswana and more. Look above for more 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

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

June 2019

Summer Update

MONTHLY SUPPORT GOAL

93%

Your gifts continue to make our ministry possible. Thank you for your support of our work here!



A chameleon that hangs around our compound