

# Mattocks Missionary Mosaic

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***“Our people are going to trust the Bible more that you are translating for us because you are going to Israel.”***

When I (Rich) heard that comment from one of the wives of our translation team members, I prayed, “Ok, God, I think I see it now. Forgive me for questioning you on this.” Back in 2014, we had worked hard to help two of our newest team members (Korry and Krompe), who were being trained to be Papua New Guinea (PNG) Bible consultants, to join other trainees on a study trip to Israel. That trip in July 2015 was paid for by a Wycliffe sister organization project, which we supervised in PNG.

We had just arrived in Spokane on furlough when Korry and Krompe went to Israel. I had prayed, “God, You know the other team members have 10-15 more years they’ve committed to this translation project...In their culture this is not fair that not everyone goes, and these two are not the primary translators anyway.” At that point, I had a weird feeling I sometimes get, and the thought entered my mind: “When you get back to PNG, start taking small steps to get the rest of the team ready to go to Israel.” I argued with the thought, “We will never have that kind of money! God, how are you going to do this?” Yet, I was given a confidence that at some point the rest of the team would go, and I’d better just walk by faith. I took the first step and wrote it in our yearly Wycliffe language plan as a goal for our translation team to do in the next 3-10 years. After our return to PNG in 2016 from furlough, I told the translation team members, “When you are near a hospital, try to get birth certificates.” Most don’t even know when they were born, so that meant asking their family if anyone could help by remembering a historical event to make a close estimate of the year and maybe the month. They needed to make up a birth date and year when filling out the birth certificate. None of the Kamano-Kafe team knew their date of birth; one thinks he has the correct year.

With Wycliffe’s (WBT-USA) finance policy changes in 2016, we and other translation teams were no longer allowed to use money from our language project budget for things which we formerly paid. This includes our distribution ministry motorcycle, truck expenses, school scholarships for team member’s children, and medical/dental for the team, nor the sorcery movie. Because of those policy changes, our Kamano-Kafe funds (given by supporting churches) started piling up in this WBT-USA project account. We and dozens of other missionaries wrote appeal letters, asking for policy modifications. I (Rich) organized meetings with WBT-USA leadership in PNG for us and 15 other language teams. Because we made very little headway, language teams started doing financial ‘work-arounds’ to be able to pay for some of their work (out of compliance with the new Wycliffe rules). After two years and very few changes from the emails and meetings, God led us to open Tyndale Bible Translators (keeping our work in compliance with IRS law).

In January, Joyce looked at our WBT-USA project account and saw the amount we could not use up before we resigned from Wycliffe in December and said, “Rich, we need to take the translation team to Israel now! Otherwise, all this money will go into Wycliffe’s general budget. You need to start getting the Kamano team their passports now!” I responded, “That’s a great idea, but so much work. I really don’t want to do it on top of everything else.”

We also worked on an amendment to our FY18 budget plan to take the team to Israel. In April we had our annual review with our supervisor (who is filling in as Highlands Regional Director, the role we did previously for four years— but none of the other language teams are willing to do it now, partly due to the WBT-USA policy changes). He said, “This is a great idea! You have done lots of training here in

Ukarumpa already, so this is the logical next training step. You have most of the money in this account and it allows the account to be zeroed-out, avoiding the headache for Wycliffe trying to figure out what to do with the money. I approve this.”

The adventures involved in getting the passports keep us shaking our heads in amazement. **With four weeks and one day before the Israel trip starts, we had all the airline tickets and pass-**

**ports! Eight of us will be traveling and in Israel between June 14 and June 29. Please pray for safe travels and on-time flight connections. Pray also that we all learn a lot on this study tour.** Our Kamano-Kafe team members are REALLY EXCITED and we are still shaking our heads in disbelief! **Rich, Joyce, Franky, James, Kossack, Nathan, Tuas and Yauko are going.** We do not have enough funds for Esther to go, but the timing is not right for her. She has a 3-month old baby, and is taking classes now at Goroka University to earn a school counselor degree. This ten-day study tour is specifically designed for national translators from minority languages. It includes a camel ride, and a trip to an Israeli Biblical zoo to see lions, bear and animals only seen in pictures and videos by the team until this trip. **Pray that this trip will also help dispel the common misunderstanding in PNG that Jerusalem is in Heaven!**

**“The sorcery movie is amazing, and it’s working!”**

Those are the kinds of comments we are hearing from some of our fellow missionaries. One said, “I showed the sorcery movie in five different villages in the Sepik region, and people were saying, ‘We need to change.’ Rich, the movie is SO GOOD. Making it was a massive effort. Tell your team thank you!” With anything out of the box like this, there is some missionary controversy. We are so thankful God guided us to open Tyndale (TBT) during the making of the movie. We did not know that TBT would keep the movie from being pulled due to our PNG Directors, who are supportive, but decided that the organization should not hold the copyright and sponsor it (TBT sponsored it). So from a fellow WBT-USA missionary using the movie in her ministry, “THANK YOU” to all who helped make this movie a reality through prayers and gifts. We’ll all get to see the results in Heaven!



Joyce helping Jayson, our Coffee Canteen manager, balance the books on fortnight Friday.

- ☞ **PTL**—the sorcery movie *Tok Pisin* (trade language) DVDs arrived the first week of April and are selling very well and being shown around PNG with great results.
- ☞ We've had frequent requests for an English sorcery movie version. **Please pray that we'll have time to dub (record) the sorcery movie into English before furlough in October.**
- ☞ **Please pray for our Israel study tour trip (June 14-29). Pray for safe travels and no flight delays or cancellations.**
- ☞ **Old Testament progress:** we finished Esther May 1st and started translating in *Job*. Currently, 61% of the OT is done.
- ☞ **Please continue to pray for Christa in her science studies at UW.** She is starting to study for final exams now, and finishing her Jr. year of Physics and Organic Chemistry classes and long labs. These are prerequisites for taking the medical school entrance exam.
- ☞ **PTL**— Christa has been rehired a third summer as a youth intern for Foothills Community Church in Spokane.
- ☞ Rich has PNG Executive Committee (EC) meetings in July. **Please pray for wisdom and stamina for both of us.** (Joyce takes over the translation team when Rich is at EC meetings, and still has to keep up with finances, the home, etc.).
- ☞ Our transition to TBT has caused some unique challenges here. Wycliffe USA wants us to finish with them *before* setting up PNG agreements and new 'other mission' account #s, which we need in place for our house and charging monthly bills.

- ☞ **Pray for our PNG permanent residency status to be granted soon.** This will benefit our long-term service in PNG so that we won't have to apply for work permits frequently.
- ☞ **Our furlough begins October 1.** Please pray for all the furlough preparations we need to get done after our Israel trip. **PTL for furlough housing and a car!** We will be living in Puyallup.

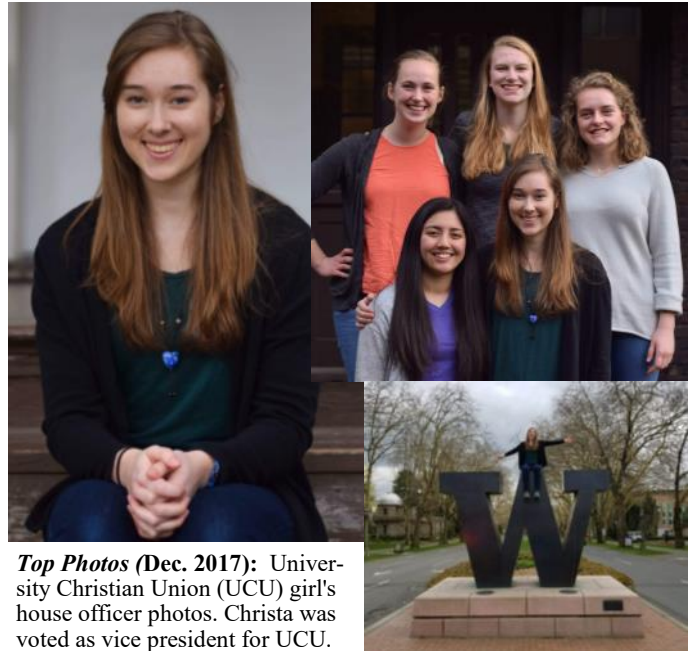


*Left Top Photo:* Coffee beans in the parchment stage packed to the roof in the Canteen building.  
*Left:* The Hullers that remove the parchment skin to make green beans. God has grown our customers to the point that we need over 3,400 pounds this year—a challenge with wetter, cooler weather, causing a late season.



## ☺ Christa's Corner ☺

- ☺ We have been bemused with Christa's frustrations over the UW curved (downward) grading policies which only allow a small percentage of the students to get 'A's'. On Skype, Christa makes comments like: *"Argh! On the physics test I scored 23 points higher than the class average and it still was only a 92%"...* *"I think you should write about the sad trials of Christa's life and her futile attempts to cheer herself up after quizzes by eating chocolate and looking at tofu recipes and science memes [jokes]."*



*Top Photos (Dec. 2017):* University Christian Union (UCU) girl's house officer photos. Christa was voted as vice president for UCU.

***We are in financial relationship with Wycliffe through December 2018. However, please send your gifts to the Tyndale Bible Translators address below as soon as possible.***



**To stop EFT gifts to Wycliffe (e-check or credit card):**

Call Wycliffe at 1-800-992-5433 or email:

donor\_relations\_orlando@wycliffe.org (you might need to check on this and try a second time, as some told us they had to do this twice).

### For Personal Correspondence:

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### New E-mail Addresses:

**RichJoyce@TyndaleBT.org**  
**Director@TyndaleBT.org (Rich)**

**E-mail addresses good thru Dec 31st:**  
**r-j.mattocks@sil.org.pg**  
**or: Rich\_Mattocks@sil.org**

### *Moving?*

Please send address changes either to us, or to Joyce's sister:

**Carol Holter**  
**2767 Pleasant Valley Road**  
**Rice, WA 99167**

***For Financial Partnership:*** Please send checks made out to *Tyndale Bible Translators* with a note attached stating: *"for the ministry of Rich & Joyce Mattocks"* to:

**Tyndale Bible Translators**  
 6667 E 24th Drive  
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 Email: [office@tyndalebt.org](mailto:office@tyndalebt.org)  
 Treasurer: Kim Washkow



**Or give online at:**

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If you are willing to get an **email receipt** rather than a mailed receipt (to save on costs), please include your email address with your mailed check.