

Mattocks Missionary Mosaic

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Results of your prayers—and God’s answers. Thank you!!

In our September newsletter we asked: *Please pray we can be patient and that the [Gadsup] recording will not be slowed further.* On **Thursday, November 7**, Stephen texted from the Gadsup cubicle, where he was helping record the final verses of the Gadsup New Testament (NT): ***“Gadsup group has finished recording. Kennedy and Esther are going to do one more listen-through of 1 and 2 Timothy before sending it over to you.”*** Esther and Kennedy were the only ones on the Gadsup team that were able to travel safely from their villages to Ukarumpa due to the upheaval in many villages. I (Rich) texted back: ***Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!*** **Stephen Cahill**, one of our new Tyndale missionaries, who normally works at the SIL-Dallas computer help desk, was here in PNG on a five week vision trip. I had asked him to drop by the Gadsup cubicle and see if he could assist Esther and Kennedy. So Stephen recorded their final days. PTL—for His provision!

During recent local district elections at the end of October, village fights and simmering disputes flared up more than usual across the highlands. Some people have been hospitalized, others have fled their villages, and many houses were burned. **Manasseh**—who had recorded nearly all of the Gadsup New Testament and learned to clean recordings (adjust volume and remove space between recorded phrases, etc.)—is among those still missing the last few weeks. Rumor has it that Manasseh won the election, which means he likely could not have finished the recording anyway. Kossack, our lead recording person, was also away in another province prepping a team for a Jesus Film recording. Kossack and I talked on the phone about options; he said, “I also trained Kennedy and Esther. They can do it.” On November 10, Esther brought me the recording computer to have someone clean the recorded files. Nero, our new Fore recordist, was six feet away in our translation office that day cleaning the Fore recording of Acts. So I asked Nero to teach Esther, which she did that morning. Esther has now nearly completed getting the recordings ready to load on the MegaVoice players. PTL!

We can’t wait for the audio version to reach these Gadsup villages, including where the fighting happened! Please pray!



Photo:
FORE
team
recording
1 Cor.
in our
translation
office (Oct).
Left to
Right:
Aquila,
Jimson &
Nero.

That day as Esther stepped into our translation office to learn how to clean recorded files from Nero, I was turning to go back inside to finish writing an email. I didn’t finish that email till five hours later because a man walked around the corner unexpectedly. It was Davis, a good Fore reader, and someone I’d been trying to get a hold of since February! He explained that he’d lost his phone and had been unable to buy a new one. He joined the Fore recording team the next morning. Praise the Lord!

Shortly after we sent our September newsletter prayer requests, I awoke one morning with a strong sense to call Kabigora. He is the Fore man who first challenged me years ago to help revise the Fore NT. Amazingly, he still had the same phone number! I told him that the recording in Fore was stalled because we needed new people on the team. Kabigora had transferred from working across the country, and he just happened to answer my phone call as he was walking from his house in our valley to the Ukarumpa hardware counter. He came to my house, and we made a list of potential Fore speakers—including his well-educated daughter, **Nero** (pronounced Narrow). She had some experience with computers, and since September has filled the need for a Fore speaker to record for the team. Praise the Lord that after a year of very inconsistent progress, God has supplied, and the Fore team has been diligent in recording their retranslated New Testament. They have completed Matthew through Ephesians.

After lunch, November 10th, Joyce adviser-checked verses in John for the Benabena language team while I taught Kennedy how to prepare the Gadsup text for print—checking thousands of items like verse markers, punctuation, and spelling. ***Please pray for safety for Kennedy because of the upheaval in his village, and to able to diligently work on this task, which is needed before typesetting. Also, pray for peace in Gadsup and Benabena villages so that our teams can continue serving in this ministry.***



Gadsup team Recording Revelation (October)

🙏 **Thank you for praying for Joyce's health.** We continue to try some supplements, foods and a vibration plate to lessen the stinging in her right hand and feet. Please continue to pray, as living with chronic pain zaps energy.

🙏 **Praise the Lord—the Gadsup audio recording of the New Testament is nearly complete.** Pray that the news of the recording will spread and people will be hungry to hear God's Word on audio players. Spelling checks for the printed New Testament book are also underway.

🙏 **Praise the Lord that the Fore team has been consistent and has now completed recording Matthew through Ephesians!**

🙏 **PTL—The Benabena team** has made steady progress against incredible odds because of **several village fights** due to sorcery accusations. We've had to reschedule their trips from Goroka to Ukarumpa because of conflicts. **Pray for protection of our team members** from evil accusations and village jealousy.

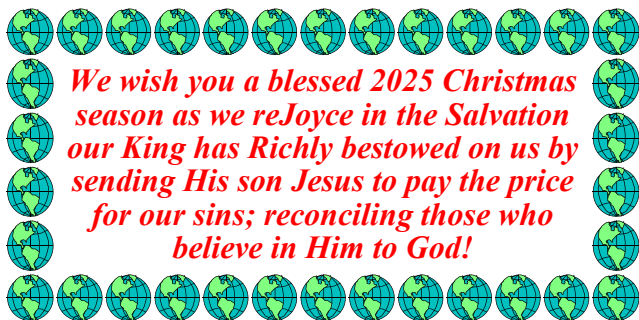
🙏 **Please pray for Lofi (Benabena) and Manasseh (Fore), who both have had to flee their villages due to accusations against them.** Neither man has been located. **Please Pray!**

🙏 **Please pray for us.** We are doing both field and mission director work. Most missions half TBT's size have a full-time director in the USA. Recent election fights and more frequent village disputes have really impacted our PNG team members. The last several months, our days have been filled with many more impromptu, difficult conversations and decisions. This has left little time to do TBT administration work to help Tyndale missionary families; we also have had very little time to work on bigger projects.

🙏 **Praise the Lord—God has connected us with a new, more affordable audit firm for TBT** (which was started to help non-profits deal with the skyrocketing prices of audits). The quote for our upcoming 2025 audit and 990 form is 1/3 the previous price!

🙏 **Please pray, as we need more gifts given to the TBT "general fund"** ("where most needed"). Our USA finance team keeps all our missionaries serving and receiving their support.

🙏 **Please pray that we and our family will grieve well the loss of Dwayne Jantz, Joyce's 2nd oldest brother** who lived in Spokane. Dwayne was a dear, gentle Christian who served his Savior well, including with the Gideons. He and his wife (Sandy, died 2009) stored our items in their basement for years and supported our ministry in PNG. We look forward to seeing Dwayne again in Heaven!



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Moving?

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

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Chicken Wire and Kittens... The last litter of four kittens our mother cat, Suzie, had (Sept. 16) were supposed to be given to the Benabena translators in October. Because of village fights and accusations, the Benabena team was delayed three weeks in coming to Ukarumpa for advisor-checking the book of John. Joyce was wondering, "Who could we give the kittens to?" During a tea break, while the Fore team were recording, I (Rich) walked in and asked, "Would any of you like a kitten?" Immediately, three Fore hands shot up. Joyce knew that Muntera (Gadsup) needed a new kitten since he was sad that his cat (which he had for three years from our mother cat) was killed by a dog. A few days later, Joyce said, "Rich, the kittens are finding ways to climb out of the [outside] cat house every day. You need to fix the cat house before a kitten gets lost." Here in the tropical weather, the chicken wire quickly rusts and develops holes, made worse by dogs who run through the yard at night and try to claw through the wire. That Saturday morning, I was done answering email questions from Tyndale missionaries and finance staff and headed outside to address the escape routes. After attempting to wire shut three holes, I thought, "These patches are not going to work." I looked under our house between the house posts and spotted some chicken wire scraps in the dirt. It meant that I would need to crawl in the dirt in the 30 inches between the house floor beams and the dirt to reach the scrap wire. Praise the Lord, I also found a leftover off-cut pipe to snag and drag the wire from under the house as I scooted on my stomach in the dirt. It's rather strange, but as I've aged, I've realized that with my Cerebral Palsy, my body needs these crazy building challenges that push my body beyond just going to the gym. The repair was a success and a week later the kittens were all off helping catch rats in their new bush-house homes in Fore and Gadsup villages.



Suzie and her last litter of 4 kittens. When they are about 4 to 5 weeks old, they go in the outside cat cage with sand at the bottom (instead of our utility room laundry basket). Suzie is due with another litter in December

Giving Options for Financial Partnership:

TBT has a very inexpensive and safe bank-to-bank transfer option!

1. For help, call or text (TBT Office) at 971-231-4196. Or email: Office@tyndalebt.org

2. Online: <https://tyndalebibletranslators.org/give/>

3. Or send a **check made out to Tyndale Bible Translators** with a note attached stating: "for the ministry of Rich & Joyce Mattocks" to:

Tyndale Bible Translators
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