Magnify the Lord with me!

Litimapim Yawei!

I recently took an online class on "Performing the Psalms". Each week we looked at a psalm, excavated the meaning, and then were assigned to recreate or translate the psalm in a performance of some type. (Psalms were originally written to be performed as praise to Yahweh, laments about



difficulties or as instruction for the people.) I felt shy about my performances, created in the isolation of my home office, but another class participant encouraged me to find a way to publicly share them. So, I'll start by sharing them with you. Click on the links to view and listen. (You iPhone users might have trouble accessing.... Holler at me if you'd like to access these in a different format.)

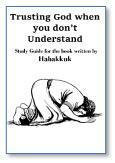
Psalm 34 sung in Tok Pisin (click on the audio link to listen)

Psalm 124 Praise Rap w Sign language (click on the video link to watch)

Psalm 133 sung in English (click on the audio link to listen)

Touring the Minor Prophets

Life is consistently full of difficulties of some sort or another. Jesus said this earth life would be like that (John 16.33), so I'm not sure why we expect otherwise. Thankfully, Jesus promises his presence to help us overcome the difficulties in this world and gives us great hope for eternal Life in a renewed context. This year, my (small) trial revolved around choking, discriminant behavior from colleagues, job loss,



accusations, and finding new co-workers with whom to serve. As I look back, it is very obvious that Jesus was faithfully guiding me through the painful, confusing transition. He has led me into a place of freedom, fruitfulness and provision quite beyond my expectations. Earlier this year, I teamed up with a lady who was also recovering from heavy losses (she lost her husband to an aggressive

Dec 2022

cancer), and we started a small women's Bible study. We studied **Habakkuk** about trusting God when you don't understand. Then we looked at **Zephaniah** and learned about God's crazy love for us and his desire to redeem our crazy broken world. In the new year, we look forward to studying **Zechariah** to understand God's plan for building his Temple. It's important to be constantly looking into God's Word, discerning his perspective and learning to think his way.

Collecting Ethnos (Greek for 'nations'; think 'ethnic')

I once had a friend whose hobby was to collect oceans. That is, her goal was to travel to see all the oceans in the world and dip her feet in them. I guess the "hobby", the mission, God has given to me (actually, to all Jesus followers) is to collect ethnic nations. That is, to share the good news with all ethnic tribal groups about Jesus being the cosmic King who came to earth as a human to rescue us from our certain self-destruction and to make us life-citizens of his eternal Kingdom. Living overseas for 30+ years, physically walking the same bits of earth where so many of these *ethnos* walked, I became accutely aware of the many challenges surrounding the mission of "collecting" ethnic people groups for the King. Language. Logistics. Dangers. Illiteracy. When I had to return to the US some 8 years ago, I had no idea how God wanted to help and expand my/our capacity to recollect his lost ethnos. I had no

idea that he would lead me to facilitate the development and distribution of tiny, stealth Gospel apps ... WORD translation tools ... "Fire" spreading programs....

"My Word is a fire," declares the Lord.

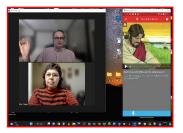
StoryPublisher.website HoneyBee OBT.com

These dynamite little apps are steadily coming together and being sent out to do their "collecting" work among the ethnos. The **Story Publisher Adv**antage app is at work in over 25 countries and has helped





70+ ethnic language groups publish more than 500 Bible story videos. The Lord has raised up a looong list of people to help build and send forth this tool and I am thankful for all of them. Recently, the Lord raised up (literally, from being dead 4 years ago) another volunteer techie to help us get the **Honey Bee** app ready to facilitate the ethnos in doing oral translation of <u>Scriptures</u>. Working remotely with **Mike**



Thacker who lives in Florida with his family, has been an answer to prayer. The Lord has his plans, his purposes, and he will bring them to pass. Never mind the obstacles.

O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together!

Praise Yahweh for his excellent guidance; for shepherding us faithfully.

Pray for MikeT, Galen and I to have <u>wisdom</u> and <u>perseverance</u> in putting together <u>Scripture templates</u> for the Honey Bee app. (If the HB app software was a stapling machine, the templates are like the staples that must be inserted into the machine to give it "teeth".) It's a massive job sorting through exegetical resources. **Ask the Lord** to <u>send more Bible</u> <u>lovers</u> to help with this work. (Psst! Maybe it'll be you...)

Praise God for raising up <u>Mike T</u> and the other software engineers to build the apps.

Pray that the Lord's <u>Word</u> would <u>spread like a wild fire</u> among the nations. (Especially remember, Indonesia, Brazil and French Africa.)

Thank you for your prayers, support, encouragement and friendship over the years. It's been a blessing to paddle in the same canoe with you for our King. Greetings from Texas and Merry Christmas!







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