

# Campbell Ramblings

Keith & Elspeth Campbell

Equipping translation work in Papua New Guinea

**Wycliffe**  
Bible Translators



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This newsletter is truly a call to our 'prayer warriors' – those who invest time before the "throne of grace" (Heb 4:16). There are many challenges facing our PNG mission community at present, but we know that in God we may "find grace to help us in our time of need".



## Pressing needs...

Our Ukarumpa International School (UIS) is facing shortages of teaching staff for the coming year, such that some primary classes are not able to be fully staffed. This is a concern to the mission families impacted, who may need to minimise their ministry roles in order to provide schooling in the home.

The staff shortages also mean that the school will be forced to limit the number of spaces available to local PNG students, a community service which is at the missional heart of UIS. A number of our friends here are teachers, and the personal burden of the situation is evident as they share their heartache at the prospect of limited opportunities for students.

Please be in prayer for the staffing needs in the school, our medical clinic, administration and finance, and of course, for people to commit to translation and literacy roles to reach language groups waiting to receive Scripture in their heart language.

## Worth the wait...

During June and July, multiple New Testament dedication events were hosted across various communities within Enga Province. The size of the undertaking was due to the Engan language being the most widely spoken in PNG, with around 370,000 speakers across five districts. These print and audio Scripture resources have been greatly anticipated by the community for decades, and the joy at receiving God's word is evident in the faces of the people.



## Prayer points

*In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly.*

Psalm 5:3

- Pray for the equipping of the ministry here in PNG, and for wisdom in the short term as we form strategies around the human resources that we currently have available.
- Pray for parents concerned about their children's educational needs, and that we, as a community, would be effective in supporting them in any way we can.
- Pray for all of our co-workers, often feeling the pressure of the ever-increasing workload. Pray that we may rest in God as we patiently wait on Him.
- Praise God that the ministry of translation continues, and that seven language groups have celebrated publication of Scripture material this year to date.
- Pray for the Engan communities as they engage with God's word in their heart language, that they may come to know "how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ" for them. (Eph 3:19)



## Prayer points

- Pray for the students intending to participate in the upcoming 2024 courses at the Academic Training Centre. They sacrifice much to leave families and community to attend.
- Praise God for the unified spirit which underlies all translation efforts, as international staff work with PNG translators who are supported by their communities.
- Pray for our ever-changing relationships on the mission field. Over ten years we have seen dozens of colleagues come and go.

## Preparation...

For several weeks, Elspeth and a colleague, Pat, have been revising lesson plans for the Old Testament Introduction course scheduled for November and December.

The PNG translators participating will examine the literary features and identify the theological messages of the narrative books of the OT. Past students have enjoyed gaining an understanding of the historical background to these OT accounts, broadening their appreciation of God's covenant purposes for His people.

## But first...

Elspeth will be coordinating and teaching for five weeks during the Initial Skills Course from October 10 through to November 12. There are fourteen students planning to be involved in the course, after which they may progress to the first Translator Training Course.



## Time flies...

We're thankful that the Lord has enabled us to serve the Kingdom here in Papua New Guinea for over 10 years. August 2014, we arrived and began our Pacific Orientation Course. We have changed and learnt so much as we have continued to serve our great God. We look forward to continuing to serve the Lord in whatever capacity He determines.

Photos opposite: 2014 Pacific Orientation Course  
2016 Prayer card as Lae Regional Centre managers  
2024 Ukarumpa, Eastern Highlands





## Grace abounding...

Keith was able to spend time with his parents during a trip to Australia in August. Mum is growing less connected with what is happening around her, but still benefits from interactions with family, including an 85th birthday celebration and a cake shared with Keith's sister, Helen.

We are thankful that Mum remains in good spirits generally and does not feel out of place in the nursing home, particularly with Dad being with her for lunch each day.

## Something missing...

One of the reasons Keith travelled to Australia was to follow up on the ongoing fatigue he has been experiencing. Blood tests revealed that his B12 levels were again well below the acceptable minimum, and that some intervention was required. He was able to have a round of B12 injections and return to PNG with eight months' worth of vitamin supplements.

Further tests did not indicate any underlying issues, but we now know what to look out for if the fatigue returns.



## Prayer points

- Praise God for the ongoing witness of His grace in Mum and Dad's lives.
- Give thanks for Dad's good health that enables him to be involved in Mum's day-to-day care, and also to continue enjoy serving the local church in many ways.
- Pray for Keith's health issues, and the impact that this has on both work effectiveness and on home life.

## How to partner with the Campbell's....

At the Wycliffe Australia website [wycliffe.org.au/member/keith-elspeth](http://wycliffe.org.au/member/keith-elspeth) you will see links to receive our updates and send messages, and a link to our [campbellramblings.org](http://campbellramblings.org) website to access blogs and newsletters.

Support Keith & Elspeth Campbell in the Bible Translation Movement

Once Only	\$ 35	\$ 75	\$ 100	My Gift (Select an amount or enter your own) \$ 100.00
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