

Dear Brothers and Sisters at Harvest Baptist,

Sometimes when I think about what to write about, I realize our lives are not all that interesting. But these “uninteresting” times are usually our most productive times. I am finished with all the drafting of Scripture that I am going to do. I have checked my drafted material with my language helpers and given them to Bella. She is doing comprehension checking for the Old Testament passages that we are planning on translating. She should be done in a couple of months. With the extra time I have now, I have been working ahead on the lessons for the church. I teach some of them, and the men here teach others. The men just finished teaching through Philippians. I am near the end of teaching 2 Corinthians. One of the things I need to do before we leave here is to revise every lesson that I have taught. From the beginning, we have made the lessons with this in mind. The older lessons will need more revision, and the later ones less.

In two days, our translation checker is supposed to arrive from the States. Due to a misunderstanding, we will not be checking as much as we had planned. But if this check goes well, it will still leave us with only one more check to do. That is being planning for this coming Spring. We aren't at the end here yet, but we can see the end from here. We appreciate your prayers for us in the next two weeks. Checks are very hard for everyone involved. Our desire is to be accurate and that the scriptures will be understandable to the folks in here. We are very aware of our limits. We really do count on your prayers for this process.

We have mentioned a few times that it is getting harder physically to live in here. In an attempt to stay in shape we exercise every day. This month we also added a stretching video to our routine. However, me being me, I overdid it and wrenched my back. I have chronic problems with my back. I have learned some of the things I can't do now. I will add extreme stretching to the list. When I hurt my back, it usually takes about a week to not be in pain. My back seems to be a little better today than it was over the weekend. Then, a few days ago one of Bella's molars had a piece break off of it. The obvious thing to do is to go to the dentist in Pontianak. There are passable dentists there. But that is a very hard 10-hour trip each way. The further away from Pontianak the more basic the dental care. Bella decided to go to a dentist about an hour from here. It took her half a day and was a really hard trip on the back of a motorcycle. When she got there, the dentist told her all he does is pull teeth. Now the plan is for Bella to go out when the translation consultant is finished. That is in two weeks. We do appreciate your prayers for us that we will be able to hang in here until we are finished.

Some of you have asked how things are going with Akim and his church. He is still doing everything he can to entice the folks from our church to go to his. At this point, almost all the members of his church are the ones from our church that we didn't believe were saved. Things are actually much more peaceful with Akim gone. As we reflected, most of the church problems we have had to handle in the last few years have Akim in the middle of them. Our prayer is that the folks we minister to will see through Akim's plot and plans and not be deceived. We appreciate your prayers for the folks here.

Thanks so much for your prayers for us and for the Sekadau people. Thank you too for the \$300 that you sent to us in August.

In Christ,

Paul and Bella

Please pray:

1. For the check to go well
2. For our health
3. That the believers here will grow in strength and knowledge of the Lord.

Sorry no pictures this month.