



Lunch with reviewers

January 2011

"At one time all the people of the world spoke the same language and used the same words." Genesis 11:1 (NLT)

Amazingly now, even when we speak the same language, we don't use the same words. Our Banna translation team spends many hours with the Review Committee seeking the best way to express the Biblical text in the Banna language. Praise God with us for these reviewers. They have read through Acts and Mark over the past two months and helped us improve the wording tremendously. Please pray that they will faithfully meet with us to check each New Testament book.



Reviewers discuss a verse in Mark's Gospel

Getu, Ayke, and I have completed the consultant check of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and 1-2 Thessalonians. Praise God for progress made.

I plan to check Leviticus with the Kafa team in February. They recently organized people into groups to help them read the Kafa Scriptures. As one group read Luke, they came to the part about Jesus' crucifixion. One man began to weep and said, "I am not a follower of Christ who gave his life for others. If someone wronged me I would plan to revenge him sevenfold. So how can I call myself a follower of Jesus, who endured such suffering although innocent?" He then went and asked forgiveness from his wife and from his neighbors for the way he had treated them. Kafa translator Matewos wrote, "He repented of his sin and asked forgiveness from people and from the Lord. The story of this man increased our conviction about the power of hearing the word of God in one's own tongue, to transform lives and to lead people to spiritual maturity." Praise God! I long for this kind of breakthrough in Banna as well.

Having recovered from the disappointment over being denied a residence ID, I look forward to my time in the USA from July to September. Please pray for God's enabling to schedule visits to churches, family, and friends in such a way that we have meaningful time together even though it is short. Pray for another 2-year visa so that I can return and see the Banna New Testament and Kafa Old Testament completed.



My oldest nephew David and Michelle welcomed baby Annika on December 1st. Her 7 brothers and sisters were delighted, each wanting to hold her in turn. Niece Christina and James await the birth of their second child about the time daughter Mikayla turns 1 in February. Nephew Matthew and Mariya welcomed baby Faith on January 14th, 8 weeks early, weighing 4 pounds, 1 ounce. Praise God for His faithfulness, and please pray for health and protection for baby Faith and her parents. Three new reasons to visit family!

The Cox family, Donna, and I celebrated a quiet Christmas together on December 25th (photo above). On January 7th the Alduba Church children presented a lovely program for us focusing on the birth of our Savior and the joy we have because He came (photo at right).



Special thanks to all of you who partner with me by your prayers and support. Your faithfulness is such an encouragement to me!

Rejoicing in God's goodness,

Carolyn Ford

SIM USA, PO Box 7900, Charlotte NC 28241-7900