



*"You see me when I travel and when I rest at home... You place your hand of blessing on my head." Psalm 139:3a, 5b*



Enjoying Ethiopian food with Kafa translators (Matewos at left, Gezahegn taking photo) & Rick Imholte in my apartment

This is my fortieth year with SIM in Ethiopia. I had always wanted to visit Lalibela, with its churches hewn out of solid rock. At the end of June, I had the privilege of doing so with four friends – a wonderful and exhausting experience! Above you can see the top of St. George Church.

Earlier in June I was blessed with a visit from friend Rick Imholte on his way home from ministering in Tanzania. His genuine interest in and love for the local people and culture encouraged me more than words can express.

Because communication with the Banna translators seemed uncannily difficult (phone system just wasn't working), I asked the Lord to show me if

there was something else that should be done before we submitted the Banna New Testament for typesetting. He led me to contact the spelling adviser for translators, who informed me of a plan to produce textbooks in the Banna language for teaching in the Banna area schools. Now we are waiting to learn what script and spelling system will be used for these textbooks. If we had published the New Testament in a different script from that used for the textbooks, it would make reading doubly difficult for the Banna people. *Praise God for delaying the checking long enough for me to learn about the planned textbooks. Please pray that the authorities will soon decide on a script and let us know what characters they will use to represent each sound.*

Since May we have completed the consultant check of 1 Samuel and 1-2 Kings, and have started checking 2 Chronicles in the Kafa language. I have also prepared questions on Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, and Jonah. *Praise God for good progress.*



Kafa men studying the Word in their heart language

Matters for prayer:



Kafa Translator Gezahegn & Abnet with 2-month-old Misgana ("Praise")

- Kafa translator Matewos and his wife are expecting their 4<sup>th</sup> child in August. My nephew Matthew and his wife Mariya are expecting their 2<sup>nd</sup> child in October. Their first baby was born 2 months early because of pre-eclampsia. *Please pray that Mariya will be able to carry this baby to term without any complications.* My niece Christina and husband James, serving with Wycliffe in Papua New Guinea, are expecting their 3<sup>rd</sup> child in December. *Praise God for these gifts and please pray for safety and health for mothers and babies.*
- *Please continue to pray that the Banna New Testament will be published in time to hold the dedication early next year.*
- *Pray for wisdom beyond our own in checking the Kafa Old Testament translation.*

Thank you for continuing to partner with me by your prayers and support and encouragement.

Blessed to be His,

Carolyn Ford