



DENEUF NEWS

FEB 2022

Hilary Deneufchâtel, serving with SIM to bring God's Word to people in their own language.

"Your word, Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens." Psalm 119:89.

Written by: Hilary, (with Marc, Simon, Benjy and Eve)



DEAR FRIENDS

I am really enjoying the richness of my Bible translation consultant training, and would like to share with you a bit about what I've been doing over the last few months.

Monkolé Bible

I thought I had finished my work on the Monkolé Bible, with hard copies distributed to the Monkolé churches in Benin in October 2021. However, it turns out that there are some software glitches to be sorted out before it can be published online. My translation team didn't have more than basic training in Paratext (our Bible translation software) in Benin, so often when we needed to do something we found some way which worked, and this proved to be sufficient for publishing on paper. But now that we would like it to be available online, the software programme objects to some of the ways we did things, and I need to get them sorted out. This is a good learning experience for the future, where I will probably need to help other teams with Paratext.



It is a real encouragement to have heard that many sermons have been preached on the Old Testament in the Monkolé churches since the publication of the Bible.

Checking in Zambia

Earlier this month I had another opportunity to take part in a translation checking session held on Zoom with a consultant in the USA and a translation team in Zambia. This time we were working on the first chapters of John, which was fascinating. Having essentially worked on the Old Testament in Benin, it is good to get experience with the New Testament, and it is also good to practise my Greek language skills! I am very grateful for the generosity and support of this consultant.

Language Study

My main day-to-day focus is Biblical Greek and Hebrew study. It is important that I understand the original version as well as possible when working with translation teams who themselves will have translated from French or English versions.

I love languages and linguistics, and so I am enjoying the challenge of learning two languages at once! But I am particularly motivated by the joy of beginning to be able to read the Bible in the original languages, and knowing how much this will help me in my future work as a translation consultant.



Communication

I am also trying to keep up with supporters and supporting churches, through these letters and through videos about my work which I make for any churches which ask for them. If you would like me to make a virtual visit to your church, don't hesitate to ask!

I am also hoping that I will be able to visit the UK in July to visit some of the churches which have been faithfully supporting us/me for so long. It would be wonderful to be there in person again after having been prevented from doing so by Covid.

Family News

Sadly we didn't manage to travel to the UK at Christmas to be with my mum (Liz Inwood) because of last-minute rule changes (Marc at least wouldn't have been able to cross the border). We then didn't make it to Marc's parents' as planned in the two-week February school holidays since first Benjy, then Eve, then Simon tested positive for Covid. It was just like a very heavy cold for each of them. Despite living in close proximity with them over the holidays, Marc and I managed to not catch it ourselves, for which we are grateful.



Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers. I'm sure that part of the reason I am still so enthusiastic and motivated is because I'm in many people's prayers.

Much love,

Hilary, Marc, Simon, Benjy and Eve

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