

JOY TO THE WORLD!



Wycliffe
SA

For millions
of people in
the world
the Bible
looks like
this.

Together,
let's fill in
the blanks.



December 2011

Dear friend,

This seasonal greeting of "Joy to the world" is both apt and challenging in the context of Wycliffe's desire (and yours, I'm sure!) to see God's Word translated and bringing JOY to everyone in the world, regardless of the language they speak. Seeing lives transformed by God's living Word is what motivates us in joyful anticipation of the vision's fulfilment. However, the challenge is the vast amount of people for whom this is not yet a reality. How do we respond to such a challenge, with over 350 million people still waiting for their first tidings of joy?

Perhaps the place to start is found in the words of Handel H. Brown, author of *When Jesus Came*, "To prepare our hearts for Christmas, we must cultivate the spirit of expectancy."

Wycliffe's VISION 2025 captures something of the spirit of expectancy. It brings into focus the goal we are trusting God for, viz. that by the year 2025, in partnership with others, we will see a Bible translation started for every remaining language. This means over 2000 languages! For us, the sheer expectancy of trusting God for the impossible brings joy, as we dwell on what could be if the God of the impossible steps in to demonstrate that *nothing* is too difficult for Him!

"God, please make Vision 2025 come true. Only you can do it, God, but I'd love to be part of it!"

What experience could be more exciting than watching God at work? Through prayer or whatever other means, we have the opportunity of being near to what He is doing. This is a very rewarding experience, which builds huge excitement in our hearts, as we see the Day of His return drawing near, and visualise the throne room full of people from every language and culture.

In this letter we would like to ask you whether you could consider one of the following:

1. Would you pray specifically for some to be called to support the work of Bible translation by joining as partners through prayer?
2. Would you consider becoming a prayer supporter yourself?

The enclosed prayer album is a small gift from us this Christmas, inviting you to join us in a partnership of prayer. At this time of reflection before the start of the New Year, why not consider the joy of seeing God answer your prayers? Many have discovered a well of joy rising in their hearts as they cover the Bibleless with a blanket of Christ's love through their prayers of faith.

"The intense prayer of the believer is very effective." – James 5:16
Think about joining a regular prayer group, or even starting one in your area. For more information, please contact us at Wycliffe_sa@wycliffe.org.

I'd like to say "thank you" to each and every one of you for your support throughout 2011. We know we cannot do this work without you as our partners. Our prayer is that your joy will increase in proportion to your expectancy of what God will do for those still waiting for His Word of JOY to come to their hearts.
AMEN!



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