



August / September 2019

Sowing the seeds – Dear friends, it's rainy season where we live and work. All 9 of our language teams have been home, taking care of crops with family, friends and neighbors. This is a perfect time for them to share their Bible stories and songs with others. While they are planting crops, they can plant seeds of faith as well. Please pray that those seeds fall on good soil!

Tis' NOT the season - Because of planting season (and washed-out roads), it is not a good time for us to hold Bible storying workshops. Therefore, we and our staff have been keeping busy with a number of other things. For example, each year in this season we get together to discuss how things are going, and what can make our work more fruitful. It is also good just to get together and catch up, because we each live in different parts of the country.

The T Family Trekkin' Times

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven;
A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;..."
Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 (KJV)



Another thing we plan in this season is professional growth. A number of our staff spent 2 weeks to improve their English. While our focus is reaching minority languages, we also must communicate with partners in English, so our staff are eager to improve. Imagine writing reports in a second language! I struggle with this a lot myself, as a lot of our project communications are in the national language, and my understanding of the speech and writing is painfully slow.

Some of us also got training in developing websites! Our project's main product is Bible storytellers, not just recorded stories in various languages. Still, we have good recordings of our stories in many languages, and one way to make them available is to put them on a website, so that more people have access to them. We learned that we can also put pictures, videos, and cultural/historical information about the people the websites are about. We want to be able to train our workshop participants to develop their own websites, so they can reach their people and churches with Bible stories and other practical information that will make their websites useful to visit. I (S■■■) made a website too – shoot us an email, and I'll send you the web address. I'm so excited about it!



**To know more about the T family,
please contact the VCC office!**



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A time to die - In the last month, we've lost a close relative, a colleague and a friend. Each death hit us a different way. The hardest thing was the feeling that we hadn't spent enough time with each one. Some of that was in our power to change, and some was not. We have to face the fact that we are away from loved ones, no matter where we live, and most of the time we live in a different country from every family member and relative outside our little nucleus. We are so thankful that each of these three loved-ones had (and has!) faith in Jesus – it means that we will get to make up that lost time with them in God's kingdom! Pray with us, that we all may hold our relationships dearly, and seek to draw more people into an everlasting relationship with Jesus.

Learning season is year-round! – A lot of kids are starting school around this time. Our kids started their new grades a few months ago, and are already one-quarter through their current grades! As homeschoolers, we give our kids shorter breaks, so we can give them less "official" curriculum each day. We also give them time for other important things: typing, art, music, computer coding, etc. Even with all of that, they get plenty of free time each day. Please pray for all of us – homeschooling is hard.



Grandpa and Aunty with kids

Elina and I got to do some learning too – by going to meetings in Thailand where we discussed **Orality** and **Ethno-Arts**. These topics are core ideas in Bible storying, and we learned of many ways that we can help make our Bible stories better and more accessible to the people we aim to reach. The kids stayed in our work country, with E [redacted]'s sister [redacted] and their Dad. It was their Dad's first time to our work country, and he enjoyed the experience as well as time with his grandkids. E [redacted] and I enjoyed our first full week together away from our kids!

As I write this, the season of Bible storying workshops has begun again.

Please continue to pray for safe travel, and for fruitful ministry through Bible stories in 9 languages! Thank you for standing with us in our Wycliffe ministry, so that "in due season, we will reap, if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9, ESV).



With Joy in Christ,
The T Family