

The T
Family's

ਪ੍ਰਦੇਸ਼ੀਨ ਪਿਲੇਡ

August 2020



So we must not grow weary in doing good, for in due time we will reap, if we do not give up. – Galatians 6:9 (NET)

Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray all the time and never give up. – Luke 18:1 (ISV)



Dear Friends, Jesus told a parable to teach his disciples to pray and not give up. In these last few months, Jesus has reminded us of this truth through His answers to our prayers and yours. We hope you will enjoy hearing how God has reminded us of the value of calling on Him early and often!

Meeting spiritual AND physical needs – As a project that focuses on Bible storying and translation-related work, we do not have project funds for emergency relief. Nevertheless, we have been able to help our participants financially, many of whom have not been able to earn an income due to the lockdown. When we contacted them, we heard many stories of people running out of food and money. They were so happy to be able to craft stories remotely, and that we could then give them the stipend we would normally give them at a workshop. Every member of our team is also giving voluntarily to neighbors. There is a lot of need, because many people have no jobs and no savings. **Please pray** that God would show all of us how we can help our neighbors in need.

Please do not share our newsletter without asking us first – thanks!

Can We Make Bible Storying Great Again? Yes, We Can!

– Many people have had to be creative in these times to get things done. Our project is no different. Back in May, our Bible storying team started meeting weekly online – we needed to figure out how to craft Bible stories remotely. It took a couple months of planning, asking questions and lots of prayer, but God showed us a way. Actually, several ways! Our 9 language groups live in different situations all over this country. Some do not have smart phones or internet, so we had to find different solutions for each team. Some teams have to craft stories by conference call on regular phone lines, some get together in a church with internet and a computer (no Covid-19 in their remote village), some are able to do online meetings from home. All of them are crafting stories from the Bible, no matter how challenging it is. We are back to work, and back on schedule! **Please pray** that each Bible storyteller stays safe, while finding creative ways to tell the Bible stories that they have crafted. With social distancing and lockdowns, it's really a challenge, yet it is also a great time to share the Good News about Jesus.



All of the pictures on this page were taken during online story crafting sessions with different language teams.

The Prodigal Parents – We have been so blessed to be homeschooling our kids, though it is often hard. We appreciate that more than ever at this time. And yet, somehow, we managed to throw over half of our kids’ school books out with the recycling!!! We started thinking of the cost of replacing them, and the time it would take to get them from the USA, and we began praying hard. We thought there was no chance of recovering the books – they had been “donated” over 2 weeks before. There are hundreds of little recycling shacks all over the city, and I visited all I could find in our area, with no success. Then, the man who took our recycling away passed by our house, and **E** heard him and asked him to show where he’d brought our recycling. He led me to a place I never would have found, and there were sacks of paper stacked 15 feet high and 6 feet deep! Still, I knew the papers must be there, so the recyclers and I started going through sacks and sacks of recycled paper. After several hours, we found every single book, in good condition. **E** and I celebrated like we’d found the lost coin in Luke 15:8-10. It felt like a miracle. A few days later, all of the papers in that recycle place were taken away for good. We praise God for His grace!

On a similar note, **L1** and **J** are nearly half-done with their 8th and 6th grades, and **L2** has started kindergarten.



Judgement call – in late July, we got a hearing for my case to re-enter **E**’s home country. Because of lockdown measures, it was online, and so we got to be “in the courtroom”. The judge was very sympathetic, and the lawyer for the government had no evidence against me at all. However, that lawyer requested a little more time to make his case, and the judge gave him until Sept. 17. If the government can’t make a case against me on that day, then I will be eligible to apply for a new visa and return to **E**’s home country! Our lawyer, a Christian, said that prayer was the key – we agree. **Please pray** for continued favor in court. I have been banned since 2012 – 8 years.

Yet another loss – Just 6 months ago, we had to tell you about **E**’s father passing away. On August 8, **E**’s older brother “Archie” passed away after a long struggle with diabetes. We knew he was nearing the end of his life, and we had several months to prepare for the possibility that **E** would not be able to go home. Now that it has happened, it is still painful. We were concerned for Archie’s salvation, and praying that he would trust in Jesus. We did not hear of any change, but still hold out hope, of course. God hears our prayers, but does not force us, or those we love, to believe in Him. **Please continue to pray** for **E** and her family. We know that many of you are grieving losses during this pandemic as well.

Thank you for your persistent prayer for us and with us!

In Christ,

S, E, L1, J, and L2



The T Family

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how to contact us!*

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