

The T Family's

Trekkin' Times



Nov-Dec 2025

“For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?”
– Jesus, Luke 14:28

Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Psalm 127:1

Dear Friends – Our house has a roof – praise God! To celebrate, our newsletter theme is on building. We hope by reading on, you will see that we all, including you, are building things that last for eternity. Not websites, apps or houses – but God’s Word reaching peoples’ hearts.

Contracting Out – Since coming overseas, we have always been members of Wycliffe. We have also been associated with partner organizations that we can’t always mention for profile reasons. However, I can tell you the partner we work with to do apps and websites: Kalaam Media. Look them up at www.kalaam.org.



L1 and friends in their 8-week discipleship program – here on a service trip

This Old App - Like homes, apps and websites require maintenance. If you “let them go”, they become derelict. Recently I got to train a couple volunteers, and together we updated every single Bible app we have - almost 1,000! Without this update, many of our Bible apps would be hard to find and install.

Home(page) Improvement – Every one of our websites needs a local person to manage it. I and my colleagues don’t speak the local languages, we don’t know the cultures, and...we oversee 1400+ websites and growing. That’s a lot!



I got to meet “Jim” in person, to help him build his website. He is a Bible translator for his language.

I spend a lot of time encouraging website managers to keep working on their websites, and promoting them so that people can find the Bible in their own languages. I have several tools I can use to motivate website managers. If they are working hard and are eager to reach their community, Kalaam Media will buy them a 1-week ad on social media, targeted to their community’s location. This gets the website a lot of new visitors.

On the other hand, when website managers are losing interest in their website, we have the option to move them to a new website address, a “sub-domain”. It’s like moving from an entire rented house to a 1-room apartment. It saves us money on websites that are not maintained or promoted, and it sometimes reminds website managers that their “free” websites come with responsibility. One time, I did not hear from a website manager for months, though I had reached out. Finally, I wrote to say that his website would be moved to a sub-domain, and that same day he wrote back, saying, “How do I keep my website updated?” He did not want to lose his “house”!

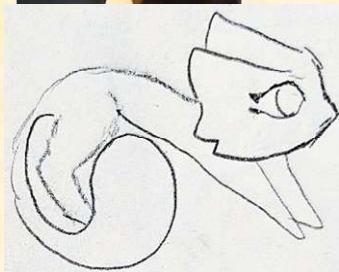
Please do not share our newsletter without asking us first – Thanks!

Not Building in Vain – When we started building our house over 3 years ago, we did not really count the cost. It has taken longer, and cost more, and is much *bigger* than we ever expected! We expected our family to live in it, and now L1 has graduated, and J is not far behind – and we are still months away (at least) from moving in. When we move in, half the house will still be unfinished, and we don't know how long that will take.

This project reminds us of our limited understanding as humans, even our foolishness. Yet God is aware of everything, all the time. He knows what this house will be used for, beyond our family home. By God's grace through our mistakes, we hope to use this house to bless others through hospitality, perhaps through training. Please pray that we will do with this house whatever God wants us to do, joyfully!



Many Mansions – We also want to keep our eyes on our eternal home. Please pray with us to never become so comfortable here that we stop thinking about our home there. Jesus became a human baby, grew up, died and rose again so that we could be with Him forever (see John 14: 2-3) – and not just us, but everyone who would accept His indescribable gift (2 Cor. 9:15). In this Advent season, may we all long to bring as many people with us as we possibly can. That's why we want to make the Bible accessible to all. That's why you and we are working together to get God's Word into people's hands and hearts. Thank you Jesus – welcome to our world!



Family Building – By the time you get this, L1 will be back home with us, after 8 weeks in a discipleship program. It's been good for him to live in a dorm, but we'll be so happy to have him back, for however long! J got "distinction" on her recent drum exam, and she is joining our church worship team – praise God! L2 turns 11 right before Christmas. She's learning violin, but her real passion is **drawing** (see two here!). E led a women's meeting at our church, and is preparing to sell some of her baking and cooking creations at a Christmas fair. We are thankful to God for blessing us in so many ways.



Thank you for your notes, your gifts and your prayers. May Christmas be a time of rejoicing in God's greatest gift – Jesus!

Sincerely,

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If you would like to contact us, ask for our contact information from the church office.

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If you would like to partner with us financially, please contact us through the church, and we will be glad for you to join our team!

