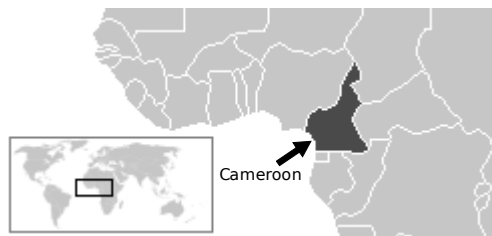


Monday, March 5, 2007

Dear Family and Friends,

As many of you know, I spent last summer working as a full-time programmer for Wycliffe Bible Translators in Dallas. My time there was very productive: I learned many new things, and I was able to make significant contributions to the project. In late October of last year, the team I worked with was able to make the first release of our software at a worldwide Bible translation technology conference. The response was very positive. Many people were interested in how the software will improve the translation process. Wycliffe's graduate linguistics school has even incorporated the tool into their curriculum. For more information on this software, visit the website at <http://www.sil.org/computing/fieldworks/flex/>.

After completing the summer internship, I returned to LeTourneau University to complete my final year as a Computer Science and Engineering major. While trying to figure out what I would do with myself after graduating, I learned about an opportunity to travel to Cameroon, Africa with Wycliffe. After talking with people at Wycliffe and doing plenty of praying, I decided to apply for the trip. A few weeks later, I got a phone call. I had been accepted!



So, this summer, I will be traveling to Cameroon to help with the Bible translation efforts for the Bantu family of languages. Nobody knows exactly how many Bantu languages are spoken in Africa today, but most estimates place the number at about 500. Of these 500 languages, over 250 have no Bible translation effort started—that represents 14 million people!

I will be a member of a small team to gather information about the ongoing Bible translation work for the Bantu languages. My duties will include conducting interviews, writing articles for websites and magazines, and maybe even some photography. We will spend time at the organizational headquarters in the major cities, but we will also travel to the village areas to visit the translators and see the projects in progress as well as to learn about and experience life there. Our team is being sent by Wycliffe's international communications office, so the materials we produce will be for a worldwide audience. Wycliffe organizations in Europe, Asia, Latin America, the South Pacific, and of course, Africa have all expressed interest in using the results of our trip. The exact dates of the trip have not yet been decided, but I will leave some time in mid-May and will be in Cameroon for one to two months.

I am excited to see and experience the Bible translation process firsthand!

Like my internship last year, this trip is entirely support-based. And, as you might imagine, a trip like this is somewhat expensive. Airfare alone will cost approximately \$2,800. After I get to Cameroon, I will also need to pay for transportation to the various sites, food, lodging, and other expenses. Even now during my preparations, I have had to start paying for expensive vaccinations. The expected total cost of the trip is \$5,000.

Yes, I need your financial support, but more important, I need your prayers:

- Pray that God will give the understanding needed to quickly adapt to living in a new culture
- Pray that God will give my team guidance in gathering these new materials
- Pray that God will provide all of my financial and other material needs
- Pray that I will be sensitive to God's leadership in my life

I am looking forward to seeing what God has in store for me. I have included a response sheet with more information on how you can be involved in my ministry work this summer.

Thank you.

Curtis Hawthorne (curtis@curtis.hawthorne.name)

# Yes, I will partner with you for your trip to Cameroon with Wycliffe Bible Translators

\_\_\_ I will pray for you. Please keep me informed of your prayer requests.

\_\_\_ I will support you financially and am sending \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help with your expenses.

My home church has set up an account where you can make tax-deductible contributions toward my expenses.

Please send your contributions to:  
First Church of the Nazarene  
4290 N. Monroe St  
Hutchinson, KS 67502

Make checks payable to “Hutchinson First Church of the Nazarene” and write “Curtis Hawthorne Wycliffe” on the memo line.

Please return this letter to me (or e-mail me) so I will be aware of your support. Thank you!

Curtis Hawthorne, CPO 1238  
LeTourneau University  
P. O. Box 7001  
Longview, TX 75607

(903) 220-5977  
curtis@curtis.hawthorne.name

Please fill in your contact information so I can keep you up to date with my progress over the summer.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_