

Dear Family and Friends,

As many of you know, I have been attending LeTourneau University in Longview, Texas, majoring in Computer Science and Engineering and am now a junior. Last semester, I began the process of trying to locate a summer internship in a field related to my major. I expected to work for one of the large corporations that usually hire LeTourneau students, but at one of the job fairs on campus, I talked with a representative from Wycliffe Bible Translators. I was surprised to find out that not only is technology heavily used in Bible translation, but that Wycliffe writes much of their own software. Software development is exactly what I was interested in doing, so I decided to get some more information.

Over the course of the next several months, I got in contact with the head of their programming department in Dallas, toured their facilities, and did a lot of praying. I was very impressed with the work that they do and felt that I would be able to contribute as a part of their programming team. I decided to submit an application for a summer internship, and I was accepted.

Wycliffe has been involved in more than 600 translations during its 70-year history. But there are still over 2,500 languages for which no translation work has even begun. Wycliffe's goal is to see Bible translation progress in every language group that needs it by the year 2025. Software that makes the translation process faster will be a vitally important part of reaching that goal.

So, this summer I will be working full time as a programmer at the Wycliffe headquarters in Dallas. I will be on the core programming team for a piece of software called FieldWorks Language Explorer. This program is a combination dictionary-thesaurus, also known as a semantically classified dictionary. It allows translators to record lexical information and develop dictionaries in preparation for Bible translation. Wycliffe Bible translators have not had a tool like this available to them until very recently, and it allows for much more rapid as well as significantly more accurate translation work.

I am very excited about this opportunity that God has given me to use my programming skills and experience to further the work of Bible translation!

Internships at Wycliffe are support-based, so I will need to raise my own funds to cover my expenses. I have not been able to finalize my housing plans yet, but I estimate that I will need about \$2,000 to cover basic living costs. However, because I will not be going back to my usual job as Assistant Network Administrator for First National Bank in Hutchinson, Kansas, I will also need a way to pay for the next two semesters of college. So, I am hoping to raise at least \$5,000.

More important than financial support, I need your prayers.

- Pray that God will give the understanding needed to quickly adapt to working with a new team in a new environment
- Pray that God will give my team guidance in developing this software
- 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 internship at 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.

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 Internship” on the memo line.

Please return this letter to me so I will be aware of your support. Thank you!

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

Name: _____

Email address: _____

Mailing Address: _____
