

"Renewal of your mind"

VANUATU NEWS FROM LOUIS & JANE FAULSTICH



April 2017

Friends in Christ,
For the past month Jane and I put language learning on hold to push toward a healthier living environment. Another missionary came to help us put up a roof and for the past two weeks I've been piecing together the floor and getting the walls ready for siding. Had it not been for the prevalent lack of materials I believe we could have had a fully enclosed home by now. I'm determined to just use imported materials for the rest of the build and postpone the grey hair.

Today we are heading into town to test out a new method of recording Scripture online. If it works we will be re-recording some parts of the Southwest Tanna New Testament, and Faith Comes by Hearing will do all the editing back in the U.S. Of course, I have reservations about the reliability of Tanna's internet connection.



The rain is letting up a little and all four wheels on our truck are going round and round allowing us to make visits to more distant villages. We don't have a set routine for every visit, sometimes we show a movie in language, other times we demonstrate a Bible listening group study, other times I'm asked to preach. The responses can lead us to frustration when there is obvious lack of interest, but last Sunday was especially encouraging when nearly the whole church stayed late to practice reading and making a group study module.

Our area of Tanna is historically less responsive to the Gospel, so it will be important to engage with people in a way that involves less pre-understanding of the Bible. We cannot assume that individuals are willing to invest in

something which has not yet impacted their life. With the audio Bible those who are illiterate have the chance to listen through the entire New Testament and portions of the Old Testament without first attaining a level literacy. Yet we still shouldn't assume this is a sufficient means to present Jesus. The Tannese have a unique form of logic which needs further exploration to understand how foreign concepts such as salvation by faith or the consequence of sin might shape their faith in Jesus.

One of our long term ambitions is to develop a set of thought provoking questions and commentary notes which could be recorded alongside the audio Bible. What we continue noticing is the lack of linear comprehension when listeners hear Scripture. Unless they are seeking answers to the questions Scripture addresses it seems their pre-rooted conception of God will continue prevailing over a renewed Biblical view. Since the process of piecing together information starts developing in early childhood and reinforces itself through surrounding culture it may be wishful thinking to endeavor on transforming that hardwired logical process, but perhaps we can take the first step in guiding people to ask the right questions when hearing the Word of God.

APRIL PRAYERS

Please pray God would allow us to move out of our thatched house and into our new house.
For focus once again on language learning.
For God's protection against demonic attacks on our health and strength.
For devout interest of the people for the Word of God.

Financial Contributions:

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Contact details:

- Ph: +678-564-9693
- Mail: Louis Faulstich
P.O. Box 174
Port Vila, Vanuatu
- E-mail: Louis_Faulstich@Wycliffe.org

