

“And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him.” 1 John 5:14

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Prayer Requests for 2025

At the start of this new year, there are specific ways you can pray for the Doyle family in Papua New Guinea, where they work in partnership with Wycliffe Bible Translators:

- Christy and their youngest son, Jacob, returned to Papua New Guinea on Jan. 27 after three months in the U.S. for Christy's foot surgery. Pray for Christy's foot to completely heal and for this transition.
- Pray for Larry and Christy's three boys, Lawrance, Amaziah, and Jacob, as they attend school and make friends.
- Larry is trying to plan a Vernacular Creative Phonics course for Solos teachers to help them teach children to read. Only one time slot remains open for this to happen in March/April. Ask God to move mountains to make this possible.
- Two weeks remain of the Translators' Training Course 1 for the new Solos translators. This was delayed, but Larry wants to see it happen soon so the entire group of Solos translators can begin translating the Book of Genesis.
- Pray that the literacy books in the Solos language can be distributed to the elementary schools. The first shipment is now in Buka!



*Christy and Larry Doyle,
Lawrance, Jacob, and Amaziah*

This year marks the 20th anniversary since Larry first traveled to Papua New Guinea as a single young man pursuing God's call. Larry and Christy were married two years later. We are grateful for their commitment and dedication to seeing God's Word translated into the heart language of the Solos people. We are also grateful for the entire Doyle family, including Larry and Christy and their three boys, of which the oldest two are now teenagers.

It is only through your consistent prayers and financial donations that the Doyles' ministry is possible. Thank you to each one who continues to partner with them!

Does God Speak My Language?

He wondered if he had failed. William Cameron Townsend had traveled to Guatemala in 1917 to sell Spanish Bibles, but it didn't take long for him to realize most of the people he met did not speak Spanish. How was he helping them understand the gospel?

From this disappointment, Cam launched into a new ministry—helping the Cakchiquel people learn to read and write their language. Still, the Cakchiquel people couldn't read the Bible. The people asked a question that arrested him: why didn't God speak Cakchiquel? Was He only God for Spanish and English speakers?

Cam believed that everyone should be able to read the Bible in their own language. He started translating the New Testament for the Cakchiquel, and he also started Camp Wycliffe to provide linguistics training for others. Within ten years, his vision grew into two organizations, Wycliffe Bible Translators and Summer Institute of Linguistics (now SIL Global).

Today, Papua New Guinea remains one of four countries with the highest number of languages that still need a Bible translation project started. We are grateful to partner with Larry and Christy Doyle as they work to see the Bible brought to the Solos people on the island of Buka.





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A Testimony Left Behind

Dr. Gayle Woods, missionary pastor in Cayman Brac, recently wrote the following:

“This Saturday I will be preaching the funeral of Eldeen Emery Banks. The family shared her journal with me, and I have been blessed as I read of her love for the Lord.

“She wrote, ‘God found me, and Jesus cleaned me up, washed away my sins and made me a new person. I would never change my new life in Christ Jesus for my old life in sin. I am out of sin, and I am staying out. I’ve got a good life now. I give God thanks for His love, His Son Jesus who died for our sin and rose from the dead so I can have everlasting life with Him.’

“I don’t enjoy preaching funerals,” Dr. Woods concluded, “but if I am going to preach one, that is the kind I would want.”



Tears for the Lost

By Dr. Jim “Umfundisi” Lo+

I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. Romans 9:2

“When was the last time you cried for those who do not know Jesus Christ as their Savior?”

This question was asked of me by a student during the first semester I taught at Indiana Wesleyan University. I quickly replied, “I have been a pastor for four years. I then served as a missionary in Africa and Southeast Asia for around another 14 years...”

Before I could finish articulating a full answer the student interrupted me and stated, “That is not what I asked you. My question was, ‘When was the last time you cried for those who do not know Jesus as their Savior?’”

Realizing I needed to be transparent, I replied, “Honestly, it has been ages.”

This student’s question and my feeble response caused me to spend time to reflect. When I first accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior, I had a deep concern for those who did not have a relationship with Christ. There were nights I could not sleep, thinking about them. But, as I was reflecting, I realized that over time my passion to reach the “lost” had gotten cold. I had “lost heart,” and I had to ask God to forgive me for my lack of concern for those needing Christ.

Global missions was never meant to just be a program. Over the years I have seen church programs come and go. There was always great enthusiasm starting up new programs, but over time they became routine, losing focus as to why the church even started them. This led to them eventually ceasing to exist.

Reaching the lost was never meant to just be a program. Programs have a way of coming and going. Reaching those without Jesus Christ must never be allowed to become just routine and passion-less. Instead, Christians need to have a deep concern for the lost, which may cause tears to flow, and be filled with the Holy Spirit to “go forth” to testify about God’s gift of salvation.

I’d like to present to you, for reflection, the question I was asked: When was the last time you cried for those who do not know Jesus Christ as their Savior?



Thank you for giving to World Missions. 5-10% of most donations are used for administrative costs.