

## 2017, September Africa Update (Joel Juedes)

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The past few weeks I've been living in Cape Town with Dalene Joubert, the coordinator of Global Recordings Network in South Africa. GRN makes recordings of the Bible, bible stories and discipleship materials. Their primary target is unreached people groups, which do not have a bible or access to a bible. 80% of the world cannot or does not read. This leaves hundreds of people groups in Africa untouched by the Gospel. There is much work to do!

During my time in Cape Town I've been trained how to make recordings and edit them. But the best way to explore the role of a recordist is to do it. So on thursday, 9/14, I leave for Chavuma, Zambia, where I will spend the next two months.



Practicing recording  
Discipleship by the Zambezi river in Zambia

John Leach with men he's trained to use the recordings with pictures

In Zambia I'll live with a missionary family, John and Lesley Leach, who founded "Waymakers Ministries". They train people in evangelism, agriculture and practical skills like carpentry (for employment opportunities), as well as dig boreholes and provide clothing. I will be a part of some of this.

I'm going to be recording in the Luvale language, which has around 160,000 speakers. The current Luvale bible translation is old, of a different dialect, and difficult to understand even for those who do read. First I'll be recording "Look, Listen and Live", a selection of chronological bible stories which give listeners a foundation in God's Word. A few local Luvale-speakers will read a script which we will translate together. In the future it may be possible to record an audio bible in Luvale, but for now we focus on essentials. Many "pastors" have limited knowledge of the bible, and play these recordings in place of a sermon. They are also a useful evangelistic tool when coupled with pictures. Many villages in western Zambia have never heard of Jesus-- they remain entrenched in animism and ancestor worship.

There will be spiritual warfare in a trip like this. The enemy does not want God's Word to reach the Luvale people. But we also know that God is on the throne, and He is victorious. I'm just a small part in God's grand plan, to His glory. "For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, lest the righteous stretch out their hands to do wrong." (Ps 125:3) God's protects His children, and His eyes are already on those who will be saved. God does not allow more difficulty than we can handle, but just enough to try us so that if we persevere, we will reap a reward (Js 1:4).

It is my hope to return to the USA by December and see all your beautiful faces. You are a daily encouragement to me, and your prayers make a difference. I thank God for the impact you are having in Africa and California. You are the salt and light of the earth.

**Prayer concerns:**

- + praise to God that I have the opportunity to be a part of His changing lives
- + health and travel, for me as well as my language helpers (whose voices I'll be recording)
- + mistakes may be spotted in the script and recording, so not one word is missing
- + to bond with the Luvale people and work well with them, also with the Leaches
- + as we reach out, that unbelievers would recognize their Creator and Savior (Is 43:11)
- + God's confirmation on whether I should be a recordist long-term, and if I should be based in Malawi

Grace and peace,

Joel