

January 2012

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As we closed the year at Wycliffe South Africa we became very aware that for 2012 we need to consolidate our efforts on building a strong team. God has sent a number of new people to work with us and they will need good orientation and training. To help facilitate good bonding, we planned a weekend away that we called 'Connect'. Going away together was a wonderful time to connect with God, with each other and find out each other's strengths and how we can complement one another. The retreat centre is called the "Good Shepherd Retreat Center" about an hour away for home. Mariah and Thalya were supposed to start school the day the retreat started, but we decided that it was more important for them to be with us. They had a great time and bonded well with the other children. There were 38 of us at the retreat with some comings and goings as a few people had other commitments and could only stay a short time. The theme for the time away was 'mapping out our calling' to what we are doing. We reflected back to our original call and reaffirmed it for the future.

I took a walk while at the retreat and took the picture on the next page to give you an idea of the beautiful setting we were in.

In the next little while the new members will be given orientation to help them settle well into their respective roles.

Good Shepherd Retreat Centre



Wycliffe Team

Tibbit Update

In South Africa life slows down at Christmas time. Many businesses will close for a couple of weeks and it is the long school holidays for the children. If you can afford it, or have family who live by the sea, that is where you go for Christmas. We are very fortunate that Rose's older brother and his wife have a holiday home in St Francis, which is at the sea coast. On the way down to the coast we stayed two nights with my brother and his wife in Queenstown.

That was the beginning of our Christmas celebrations with gifts and excellent food. Once at St Francis, Mariah and Thalya enjoyed playing with their cousins. As they were occupied a good part of the time, Rose and I were able to get some well earned rest. It was also a time for Rose to do some of the projects on her list. She was able to make winter pyjamas for the girls and do some future planning. We all enjoyed the interactions with our family and had some good discussions. On Christmas day we had a service where we

shared communion together and gave thanks to God for the amazing gift He gave us in sending Jesus.

We want to thank those of you who responded to Rose's Christmas letter saying you were praying for us as we travelled. We decided to do the twelve hours in one day to save on accommodation and the trip went very well with no mishaps.

Joy has finished her 11 month rehab programme here in South Africa. After a week with us, she went back to Spain. She now needs time to put into practice what she has learned at rehab, get a job and establish a new routine that will help bring stability in her life. Last month we shared with you about our need for extra financial support and we are thrilled with the way the needs are being taken care of. We have received some generous cash gifts, one newly married couple has said they will support us, and many people have written to say they are praying about our situation. We appreciate all of you so much.

Roy, Rose, Mariah and Thalya



Grade three for me
this Year.



Our joint swimming birthday party



I am looking forward to
going into grade five.



We are going
to miss
Nichole.

Celebration season



The Thanksgiving and Christmas
dinners were delicious.

I have always loved the story of David and Goliath because of the impossible odds against David's chance of winning the conflict. It has always been a lesson and a challenge to me, to be faithful in the little things of life. The many giants in our lives are overcome one step at a time and many times it is only after the fact that we realise that God has given us victory.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. ² This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. ³ In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, ⁴ for everyone born of God **overcomes** the world. This is the **victory** that has **overcome** the world, even our faith. ⁵ Who is it that **overcomes** the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

1 John 5.1-5

*My life is made up of a myriad of minute tasks, maybe to some, they seem insignificant and small.
Like David, sent to deliver cheese and bread, and then encountering Goliath foreboding and tall.
It is the little things of the moment, not the great planned strategies that ultimately win the war.
To fail to deliver the bread and cheese could have changed history; such tasks are not designed as a chore.*

*They are designed to show us that our mode of success is to be faithful one small task at a time.
That greatness was in God's hands, Goliath's fate was sealed because David decided to make the climb.
The climb above laziness, fear, belittlement, refusing to be intimidated by his chances of success.
His life was one of increasing victories, which gave him the courage to challenge and not regress.*

*That is why he said he could say with boldness:
"Who is this pagan Philistine anyway, that he is allowed to defy the armies of the living God?"*

Roy Tibbit

Hey you found the right spot! Here are the Wycliffe Bible Translators addresses and phone numbers and links for online giving for various countries, where you can make arrangements about financial support for the Tibbit's:

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If you missed any of our updates, check out our blog at: <http://royandrose.wordpress.com/>

We can be reached personally in the following ways:



For those in Canada or US, we have a Vonage phone which is a local Peterborough, Ontario number 705-201-1094. Just remember, we are six hours ahead.



South African land-line: 011-391-1760.



Local cell phones: Roy 079-719-1556, Rose 079-708-4383



Email: roy_tibbit@sil.org



Some of you like to use Skype, so look us up as **tibbitfam** and call us.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

To achieve continuity, we have to be willing to change. Without continuous re-adjustment the present cannot continue. The refusal to change will not guarantee that whatever we care about stays the same.

William Bridges