

# The Bogle Bugle

for our Partners in Bible Translation



One of the highlights of our time in Honduras was a quick (okay, haphazard is probably a more accurate word) “adventure” trip to the tropical island paradise of Roatán. Our particular slice of paradise got flooded our first night there, but we had a great day snorkeling and renewing our sunburns.



## Contact us!

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## Translation Editor Update

The **TE** team continues to fix bugs and improve the overall quality of our software. We’ve also been asked to work this year to make TE better able to help translators prepare for Scripture publishing. We’re building in capabilities to help them configure trial print layouts. And soon we’ll start to develop checking features, so they can find and fix problems in their translations. We expect additional help this summer from two interns and two or three new team members.

## Something Only God Can Do

We obey (at least on the good days). Even that’s a miracle. If it weren’t for God’s grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, we couldn’t even do that much. But just when we start to think that our “heroic” obedience is producing some pretty dramatic results, God does something to remind us it’s all Him.

Sometimes it’s a dramatic miracle in the realm of the physical, visible universe. But often it’s an even more dramatic miracle in the unseen realm of the spiritual.

This year has seen some huge answers to little prayers. Hmmm... Maybe we should start praying bigger.

For one thing, we’ve had some neat opportunities to present our ministry in the last couple months (see page 2 for more details).

Also, we’ve seen the beginnings of a spiritual awakening in the life of one of Lily’s sisters, who has long been very hard to the gospel. We’re encouraged that her daughters have been attending a good church and that she and her ex-husband have started visiting there as well. And we

can’t take any credit for the change. In fact, she said that she had no interest in attending church as long as people were urging her — it had to be her own decision. (Later, as God breaks her pride, we trust she’ll learn that it was really the moving of God’s Spirit.)

But what inspired the title of this article was something that happened on April 15.

A few days earlier I was asked to preach at a church in San Pedro

Sula, Honduras, that has been praying for us for years. The pastor’s wife (who discipled Lily when she was a new Christian) hinted that it would be good if my sermon could tie into the theme of family relationships, since they had been focusing on that recently.

I’m fairly fluent in Spanish, but it’s never easy for me to put together a sermon, even in English. This one was to be especially challenging, with only a few days to prepare and a busy schedule of vacation activities, Bible lessons for the kids, and other little projects.

As I thought about what to share, the Lord called to mind an experience I had had in India a few years ago when I sat in on a translation consulting session on [II Corinthians 3](#). I decided to make that the text for my message, even though it doesn’t mention the word “family” at all (as Lily was quick to point out).

After a day of travel to reach San Pedro Sula, I dropped into bed Saturday night without really feeling very well prepared. After sweating through the night (because of the heat, not because of nervousness) I awoke Sunday morning and asked God for a little cooler day. I also asked him to use my lame sermon to touch peoples’ hearts.

Using my chosen text, I spoke about the way our hearts can be like a letter of testimony to God’s grace. And I pointed out that while we may be able to fool some people with our



Uncle Jeremías was kind enough to let us ride his mule up and down the street in El Playón (Lily’s birthplace). He’s another person who has yet to discover the joy of being part of God’s family. Please pray for his salvation.



In February, we manned a [JAARS](#) booth at a conference at a Hispanic church in Monroe, NC. We had fun showing videos and photos to a little girl who some day might help finish the task of the Great Commission.

### Out and About

This year has seen us going near and far to talk about missions and Bible translation.

**Feb 9-11:** Iglesia Jesucristo para las Naciones, Monroe, NC

**Feb 12:** Metrolina Christian Academy, Indian Trail, NC

**Mar 1-3:** [Check IT Out](#) Conference, Chicago, IL. Result: Former TE intern Remy Steed is helping [Shaneyfelts](#) raise their support!

**Mar 3-4:** Community Gospel Church, Bremen, IN

**April 8:** Iglesia Santidad, La Cañada, Tegucigalpa, Honduras

**April 15:** Iglesia Evangélica Restauración, San Pedro Sula, Honduras

phony facades, our families generally see us as we really are. Even when they are unwilling to hear our words, they are watching our lives.

The Apostle Paul was criticized for his lack of credentials and his “weak” presentations when speaking, not to mention his history as a persecutor of the Church. But he told the Corinthians that if they — or anyone else — needed proof of his apostleship, they need only look at the way their own lives had changed as a result of accepting the gospel he preached.

At one point as I preached, my mind went completely blank. I didn’t have any written notes, partly because I didn’t have a printer but mostly because I was afraid that any notes would just confuse me as I was kind of “winging it.” But after a frightening pause, God graciously called to mind what I had intended to say, and I got back on track.

When I finished, I was dripping with sweat. As I sat down, clouds began to roll in and a cool breeze started to blow.

But the answer to my more important prayer was even more impressive. After church a lady named Valentina gave us a ride into town. As we rode with her, she told how God had spoken to her through the message. Her husband isn’t a believer and has been making her life miserable. Somehow God had used my weak words to encourage her in her struggle to shine for Him in her very difficult marriage.

That’s something only God could do!

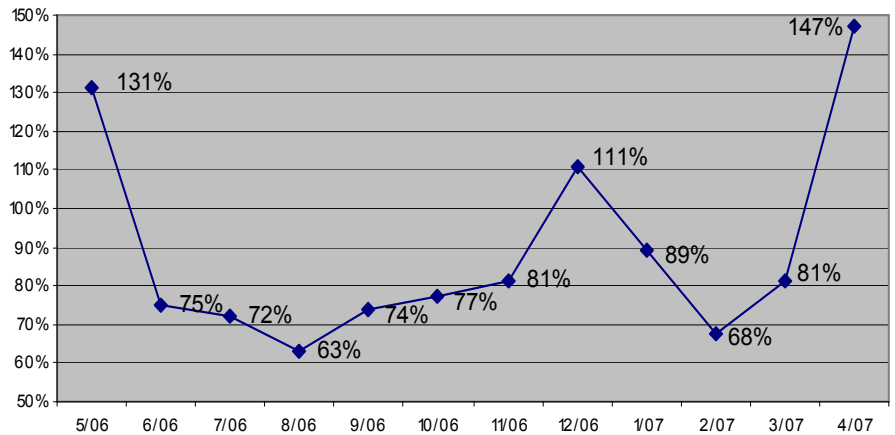


Display at Community Gospel Church, where Tom preached in March

## Support Update

12-Month Average: 89%

**We thank God for faithfully meeting our needs through your generous giving!**



## Items for Prayer and Praise

- Praise God for a good support month in April. Pray that our support would remain above 85%, so Tom will not be required to stop full-time work in order to focus on support-raising.
- Pray for the [Shaneyfelts](#) to get the rest of their support before their deadline at the end of this month. Jon Shaneyfelt is slated to join the TE team if they are able to reach 100% of their quota.
- Pray for the salvation of Valentina’s husband (see main story).
- Praise for a productive Language Software Development Conference in Dallas last month.
- Pray for preparations for Tom’s next trip to India in late July, to help conduct some training.



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All for His glory!