

## NoBibleSunday Daily Devotional #2

Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. **(John 4:35)**

### **Workers out in the field**

Today we're praying for those at the cutting edge of Wycliffe's work, our members out in the field, working day-to-day with communities who need to hear the message of the Gospel in their own language, as well as those who support them.

Wycliffe have over 400 workers, from both sending nations and nationals working with them. The work is often challenging, sometimes isolated, and in all cases, a very long term calling to see God's Word brought to life in the heart language of the local population.

## Can you imagine...?

Can you imagine what it would be like not to have a Bible? Not just a Bible of your own, but having a Bible at all in the English language?

We take it for granted, but just 650 years ago that was exactly the situation for everyone in this country. The only translation available was the Vulgate, in Latin, an error-prone translation in a language the majority of the population didn't understand.

It was John Wycliffe, after whom Wycliffe Bible Translators is named, who decided to change that. He believed that 'the sacred Scriptures are the property of the people' and despite persecution and arduous hand-written work, he and his team produced the very first Bible in the English language in 1382.

Not only would it have cost a labourer 13 years wages to buy (it took ten months just to write one out), it was declared heresy to have a Bible in English, and promptly banned.

However, it was the start of a spiritual revolution across Europe. William Tyndale produced the first printed New Testament 150 years later (that cost just a week's wages), and having access to scriptures in their own language was a key part of the entire Reformation that brought the full message of the Gospel within the reach of so many for the first time.

Today we have hundreds of translations in English, more than we could ever read, but there are still billions across the world who don't have what we now take for granted.

Each day we'll give you some short videos that we hope you'll find interesting. Today here's a short overview, just one and a half minutes, of what we do at Wycliffe Bible Translators.

# International focus - Asia

## The Aru Islands of Indonesia

Jock and Katy Hughes have been working with the Dobel people of Indonesia's Aru Islands for the last 35 years. The work has already had a wonderful impact among the growing churches there, and they're now just 5 years away from having the entire New Testament completed.

Please pray for the Hughes, their family, and the dedicated team they're working with to see this work completed for the 10,000 speakers of Dobel.

If you have just a few minutes then we promise this video of their work will inspire you to rejoice and pray for all that's being achieved:

[https://youtu.be/6N\\_S6lpCcbo](https://youtu.be/6N_S6lpCcbo) (3 minute version)

<https://youtu.be/WxlpmY0O6KA> (11 minute version)

And if you enjoyed those here's a final short video showing a day in the life of a Bible translator, featuring Jock and Katy - [https://youtu.be/8st02e\\_xkos](https://youtu.be/8st02e_xkos)

For dozens more prayer points across Asia you can visit our international prayer hub: <http://www.wycliffe.net/prayer?continent=ASI&library=T>

## Prayer focus - Wycliffe workers

- Pray for our members who have left the comfort of home to help bring God's Word to the nations - for their protection, encouragement and success
- Pray for the many local workers whose insight and cultural understanding is vital to good translation work - that they themselves might find new revelation of God's goodness through the work, and through them impact their communities
- Pray for all those working for Wycliffe who support the work of our overseas members - the management, support and technical teams, and everyone who contributes to Wycliffe's mission.