

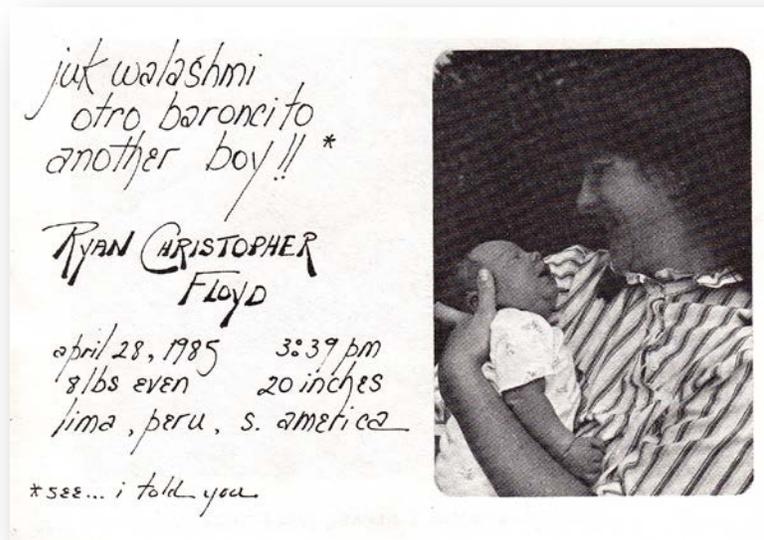
sort of mid March 2013

Hi guys,

There's one thing I truly appreciate about my mother-in-law: it really doesn't matter how long ago Christmas was; she can always send out that end-of-the-year family update with an absolutely guilt-free conscience. Well, Christmas *was* 3 months ago, so I feel like I'm following her lead here, at least in part – I'm not totally guilt-free about how long it's been since we last communicated, but I figured that while it was still technically winter until just a couple of days ago, I needed to get a jump on this before “surviving” family members start receiving sympathy cards.

Speaking of the passing of time...some of you may remember this:

Well, things have changed in the 28 years since this primitive birth announcement was sent out. Ryan (the newborn featured here) and his wife Kenlynn, are happy parents-to-be, and around mid July will usher in the next generation of little Floyd boys! I know they will be great parents; I can also totally imagine Ryan saying things like “let's go over to grandpa's and watch him take out his teeth” even though all my dental work is firmly in place and is not planning on going anywhere soon.



In addition to being thrilled at becoming first-time uncles, Erik and Lucas continue hard at work completing the first year in their respective MA programs: Lucas in music composition at San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and Erik in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.) at Biola University. And in addition to everything else she does, Melanie will soon be starting a new role as a Resource Coordinator for Wycliffe missionaries returning home for furlough. She'll help connect them with resources so that they can successfully confront the inevitable challenges home assignment brings. This will require lots of ongoing communication (if you haven't discovered this already, she's a great conversationalist!), encouragement, advice, planning, and accountability. And I should also mention here, that as a soon-to-be grandma, she's been trying to wrangle a ball of yarn into a baby blanket. The yarn's been winning.

Time does indeed relentlessly march on. And as we look back, we are so grateful for how God has continued to work among the Wanca Quechuas in Peru. It's so encouraging to see how truly committed Amador and the rest of the translation team are in getting the scriptures to their people in their own language. Not only have they been teaching and

promoting the Wanca Quechua scriptures around the area, they have also been busy drafting portions of the Old Testament as well. During January I worked with them over Skype consulting on their draft of Exodus and was very pleased at how well they've done. And we are continuing to work together in the context of one of the courses I'm currently teaching at Biola University, where students examine translated passages and then apply their knowledge of linguistics, translation principles and biblical interpretation as we interact together over Skype with the Wanca team. (Couldn't have done THAT 20 years ago!)

I love the opportunities Biola affords me to help train future Bible translators. It's my niche. In addition to that, I have also been appointed as the Director of SIL at Biola program. Hmm...now THAT's not something I went looking for. I've never been really comfortable in administrative roles. (As my Aunt Francis would say "That fits on you like socks on a rooster.") So I would appreciate your prayers for me as I wiggle my way through spots requiring tough decisions. (You can also pray for Melanie as she deals with my wiggling.)

One more thing you should know, even though my assignment no longer has me on the SIL International Board of Directors, travel has not entirely been eliminated; at the end of May I will be going to southern Mexico to lead a 3-week workshop on translation principles for speakers of minority languages who are translating the scriptures into their mother tongues. So I would really appreciate your prayers for that time as well; not just that God would give me the ability to organize and communicate clearly, but also because I'm not particularly looking forward to a long separation from family and good friends who have become intricately woven into the fabric of my life.

With that, grandpa-to-be will sign off. Thank you so much for your faithfulness, as you graciously continue to express your love and concern to us through your letters, your gifts, your prayers and your presence.

In the cross-hairs of his grace,



*Erik, Lucas, Melanie, Me, Kenlynn (&?), Ryan  
at one of those rare moments we were all dressed up at the same time!*

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