



a word from the Whaleys

Craig and Chris Whaley, serving with JAARS and Wycliffe Bible Translators

December 2017

The recording team met Tom while selecting readers for a recording of a translated New Testament. Tom was a good reader with a clear voice, much needed qualities for an audio recording.

As Tom sat in the recording studio and read portions of the New Testament into the microphone, and listened as others read their parts, he pondered, “Who is this Jesus?” “Jesus is different. Not like anyone I know.” As the days went by, he asked questions of the studio staff and the Bible translators guiding the recording, hoping they would explain who Jesus was. They gladly answered Tom’s questions and shared the Gospel. Today, Tom is a Christian and is training to become a Bible translator.

JAARS is part of Tom’s story. The partnership began five years ago when JAARS and a South Asian Bible translation organization teamed up to design, build, and equip this very recording studio so God’s Word could be produced in audio form in the local languages. Five years later, the partnership remains strong and has expanded to include IT support and training.

In October, Craig hosted Peter, President of this partner organization, for meetings at JAARS. They spent time catching up, reviewing progress and impact, planning for future work together, and praying for God’s blessing on this partnership.

(For security, we can’t share the name of this partner organization or individuals’ names.)



Audio recording the New Testament in a local language.

The last few months

A quick look at what we’ve been up to:

- In August, we enjoyed a spectacular view of the solar eclipse with friends.
- In September, we and colleagues celebrated 37 New Testament and Bible translations completed this past year.
- We hosted Peter in our home for several days.
- For October and most of November, Chris led a team that created, organized, and conducted a six-session training program for about 45 JAARS managers.
- We attended Liberty University’s homecoming weekend with Craig’s brother and family.
- In October, Craig was appointed the next JAARS corporation secretary, adding these new responsibilities to his existing ones. Craig then spent two weeks in November with the outgoing secretary transferring information and responsibilities.



Prince of Peace

Thanksgiving is now past, and Christmas is quickly approaching. Everywhere we look we see signs of Christmas. In our little town, the holidays are celebrated with a main street dressed in sparkling lights and colorful wreaths, a Christmas parade, and Friday night carriage rides. Recently while walking through town, I noticed two banners hanging from the lamp posts. The first said “Peace on Earth” while the second followed with “Happy Holidays”. It struck me that nearly everyone seeks after peace. It’s a universal desire for peace within our family, with friends and coworkers, and even between nations. Everyone seems to want peace. Yet, as the second banner proclaimed, few people seek after and find true peace in Jesus, the Prince of Peace.



“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 9:6 ESV

We are blessed and thankful to be part of Bible translation that is revealing the Prince of Peace to a lost and dying world. We couldn't do this work without you. Your prayers for us and financial support are having an impact throughout the world. We are so grateful for you.

May the peace of Christ be evident in all our lives this Christmas season, and serve as a witness to the world around us.

Merry Christmas!
Craig and Chris

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