

THE WORD OF GOD -

In Their Hands - And Upon Their Hearts

Weber - LBTC Cameroon Christmas letter 2023

“Do not fear, do not be afraid!”

Do not be afraid, Zechariah,
Your prayer has been heard,
Your wife will bear a son,
Who will bring people back to the Lord.
You will call his name John.
Foretold by prophets long ago,
He prepares people for God’s Anointed One.

Do not be afraid, Elizabeth,
Your prayers have been heard.
Your godly life is not in vain,
God will keep His Word!
Even in old age, you have received God’s favour.
Your shame is removed, your joy is complete,
Your son will prepare the way for the Saviour!

Do not be afraid, Mary,
God’s messenger comes to show you favour.
The Holy Spirit will overshadow you,
And you will give birth to the Saviour.
Jesus is His name,
He will be called the Son of the Most High.
Forever over the nations He will reign.

Fear not, Joseph,
Things aren’t what they appear.
Mary has not been unfaithful,
So take her as your wife without fear.
Her child is fulfilling God’s plan
He is showing you in a dream,
To be born the Son of God and Son of man.

Do not be afraid, Shepherds,
The angel announced a message of great joy,
Of good news for all people.
In Bethlehem you will find the baby boy.
Good news! They announced the Saviour’s birth.
Christ the Lord has come to mankind.
Glory to God on high, and peace to people on earth!

Fear not, Simeon,
Your heart’s desire has been fulfilled,
You can now depart in peace.
You have seen and held the holy child,
The Messiah, come for every nation.
He is the Glory of God’s people Israel,
And the Light to bring all people salvation.

Fear not, Anna,
God has seen your prayers and fasting,
Your continual worship is not in vain.
You have seen the gift of Life Everlasting
In the promised Messiah fulfilled!
You spoke to all of what you have seen,
The Saviour has come into the world!

Fear not, Disciples of Jesus,
Though the storm is real,
The wind is strong, and the waves are high,
Jesus says the word, “Peace, be still!”
Then all is calm and at peace.
“Why were you afraid? Where is your faith?”
Wow, He even makes the storm to cease!

Fear not, all you followers of Jesus,
Through the raging storms of life,
When we are overwhelmed with trials,
Through all our struggles and strife,
Jesus is still Lord. He is in control!
“Why are you afraid?” He asks.
He speaks peace to us and calms your soul.

Fear not.
Because of Christmas, we need not live afraid.
Jesus came to us, died and rose, conquering the grave.
He lives, He still heals sickness and calms storms.
He still delivers from Satan’s power,
Multiplies food and provides in this hour.
He conquers our fears, comforts our tears,
And promises to be with us always, all our years.

His Word says,
“Fear not.” “Do not be afraid.” “Do not be anxious.”
“Do not let your hearts be troubled,” ...
God is reminding us to put our trust in Him.
He is ever faithful and gives us His peace within.
He sent His Spirit to live within us,
So we can receive what He has given us.

May your Christmas season be blessed,
With God’s Peace in your heart,
With good will towards all,
With the message of Jesus to impart
To all who will hear.
And may you have a very blessed New Year!



Martin working with Cameroonians translators.

Dear Partners in Prayer and Ministry,

The message impressed upon us recently is “Fear not, do not be anxious, do not be afraid... because God is with us.” We have experienced various challenges, like:

- Would the Bible translation conference even happen? (It did! PTL!)
- We found ourselves on the side of the road, still hours from our destination, with two very flat tires. “Lord, what do we do now?” Some “angels” arrived on a motorcycle and got our tires repaired.
- My computer would not start up at all after our very bumpy road trip. “Lord, I need my computer for the Subula literacy work. How?” He provided Ezra, another “angel”, to identify the problem and replace parts to make it work.

God keeps providing for us! Thank you for your prayers, as part of His channel!

Thank the Lord for safety in travels!

- We arrived in Yaounde, Cameroon on October 4th. On to Ngaoundere for the 100th anniversary celebrations of the Cameroon Lutheran Church.
- Back to Yaounde to welcome our son Sammy and family back to Cameroon (after 2 1/2 years away for Keturah’s treatment for leukemia and recovery). Martin and Sammy continued to Banyo and back to transport their heavy luggage and to begin to prepare their house in Banyo for their family.
- To Pitoa, to encourage and work with the Subula literacy and translation teams for a long, hot week.
- Back to Ngaoundere for a Translation Conference for national translators, which Martin helped to lead. Then Joan followed up with the Subula literacy team to prepare a storybook for printing.
- We will travel to Banyo by December 20th to spend Christmas with Sammy’s family, and visit the Kwanjas and encourage literacy primer progress.
- Then back to Yaounde, to return to the US, Jan. 12.

Please PRAY with us:

- For the **Translators to apply well what they learned** at their conference, and to be **encouraged as they continue** their translation work.
- For the **Subula literacy workers and classes**, that their new materials will be **good tools to help many learn to read** their language.
- For **health and strength** for us to finish well, and for **safety as we travel**.
- That we may leave **encouraging and blessing** those we work with.
- For **blessings on our family times at Christmas** in Cameroon, and later, back in New Hampshire.



Joan working with Subula literacy team.

*We wish you A Blessed Christmas
& A Peace-filled
New Year!
In Christ’s Love,
Martin & Joan Weber*



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www.canadahelps.org



LBTC presented a memorial plaque in front of the Bible House to commemorate LBT/LBTC's partnership with the Cameroon Lutheran Church, in honour of their centennial celebration this October. (pictured with Pastor Daniel Touka)

It was a joy for us to welcome Kelsey, Sammy, Timmy, Caleb, Keturah and Steven back to Cameroon!



Hello, Cameroon! Steven, left, at three years old quickly learned to put together the puzzle of the 10 regions of Cameroon. Here he is, proudly showing the puzzle map of his new country of residence.



Grandparenting is also an important part of our lives!

Meanwhile, back in New Hampshire, we remember ...



- our 2-year old granddaughter, Iris, Sarah and Nate's daughter. She enjoys looking at books and exploring many new things.
- And Ezekiel, our very fun 7-year old grandson, Nathan and Hannah's son. He is taking off reading and learning many new things.



We will enjoy being with them again when return in January.