



The Hedges

SUMMER 2013 REPORT

Family

WORKING WITH BAPTIST MID-MISSIONS in Chad, Africa

“WAITING”

Our family certainly understands what it is to wait. We waited four years for our financial support so we could begin language school. We waited several months for peace to return to Chad when in 2008 a coup disrupted the peace of the country. Once again we find ourselves waiting. Many of you are aware that our family is in a major transition. Unresolved health issues concerning our daughter Rebekah have precluded our family’s returning to Chad at this time. So we are following the guidance of our Pastor and BMM administrators who have proposed that we spend our next term working from the Bibles International office in Grand Rapids, MI. Once this decision was made at the end of April we immediately began planning our move. But securing a home has been a great challenge. The difficulty is not financial but logistical.



Stricter rules make acquiring a home loan harder these days. So after four months of negotiation we are still waiting. We have a house. We have money. We are just waiting.

But it is urgent that we move soon. Living in limbo disrupts our work and day-to-day living. And expecting a baby in early October intensifies our need to move! We really want to be settled into our new home when little Moriah Elise comes in a few weeks. So please pray that God would intervene and open the door for us to move soon.



— Joshua Hedges



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VIDEO: We have a short video presentation you can access at <http://vimeo.com/42721875>. The password is “preview”.

& - Check out our web page (in development): <http://hedgesinchad.weebly.com>

✓ My work in Grand Rapids

Grand Rapids
Michigan

I would like to explain what my work will look like in Grand Rapids for the next three years. I will continue to serve as a Bible translation consultant focusing on the Day OT translation. This will require three trips to Chad this first year and four trips during the following two years in order to work face-to-face with the translation team. Each trip will allow for three weeks of work in the country. With this schedule the Day OT will continue to advance well.

Preparing for the workshops in Chad will occupy the majority of my time stateside. As a rule every week of workshop requires a week of preparation previewing the translation ready to be checked. So, I will want to plan three weeks of preparation time for each workshop trip. In addition, there is post-workshop work to take care of. Each workshop raises issues that need to be handled later. So, I will need to plan a week after each trip to deal with those issues.

The “minority” (rest) of my time will be filled with various activities. By being in Grand Rapids, I will participate in the office life of Bibles International with meetings and regular staff prayer times. And there will still be the normal missionary responsibilities to attend to such as travelling to supporting churches, writing prayer letters, and filing expense reports.

Our hearts desire though is to return to Chad after this term. We view this change as temporary. Our hope is that in time Rebekah’s health issue will pass and that we can gain medical clearance to go back to the people and country we love. Please pray to this end.



WE ARE HERE!

As this letter was being prepared God opened the door for us to move into our house on Thursday, September 29. We close on the 30th! (We are still loyal OSU Buckeye fans.)

PRAYER REQUESTS: GOD ANSWERS PRAYER!



- a. **Advancement of the Day Translation team**- We checked most of the book of Job in July. Our next book will be Proverbs. Philippe is finished with the first draft of the OT translation but continues to check over his work looking for minor errors.
- b. **Rebekah**- Pray that her health condition will be resolved.
- c. **Transition**- Pray that we can move to Grand Rapids and get settled soon.

Chad
Africa

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING SINCE JUNE?

June - We were trying to close things up and set things up in preparation for our move to Grand Rapids, Michigan.

July - Joshua was in Chad for the month of July. He spent 2 weeks going over the book of Job with the Day translation team. He spent two more weeks packing up our house in Chad and putting our things in storage with hopes of returning in the future.

August - The first part of the month was spent in meetings for Bibles International in and around Grand Rapids, Michigan. The last part of the month was spent in packing up our rental house because we thought we would be moving at either the end of August or the very beginning of September.

September - We are living out of boxes still while we await final clearance for our move. It has been tiring, but we are waiting for the Lord’s direction and timing. Meanwhile, Joshua goes to another location to get work done during the day while Barb and the girls home school.