

Could be a bad thing... Although my monthly support coming in hasn't changed, I'm not quite making ends meet the past four months (I keep borrowing from savings --- which is supposed to fund replacing my car which has 197,000 miles on it. It's quite impressive I think --- that my car has so many miles and still runs - not that I keep borrowing from savings). I'm not losing sleep, but I do like it better when income and expenses match up a bit more closely than this.

On the other hand, it's a great reminder of our dependence on God... This month, an anonymous donor gave a 50 million dollar gift to Wycliffe. (just in case you're wondering said gift does not personally benefit me... it's for the Last Languages Campaign: the idea that we could, in our lifetime, see translation work begun in the last language without a Bible). It's the largest gift Wycliffe has ever received in its whole 75 year history. The point of course is that God can do anything at all. Wycliffe the organization started in 1934. Wycliffe missionaries raised funds to cover their personal finances in the middle of the depression. Last year, the deputy chairman of the NYSE holding company donated his personal million dollar airplane to Wycliffe. When God says about not being anxious, it's not just a platitude from a friend worried about my blood pressure, it's God who already knows and has it covered.

He created all the nations throughout the whole earth. He decided beforehand when they should rise and fall, and he determined their boundaries. Acts 17:26

You know that "innocent as doves, shrewd as snakes" comment Jesus makes ("I'm sending you out", he says, "as sheep among wolves... so be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves")? On my mind a bit lately...

Stuff you could pray about...

- I was in AZ in Oct for my younger sister's wedding. It was a quick trip. I didn't really get time to visit people, but I did get to share about the work of Bible translation at my home church's Children's Ministry. Pray for those in that generation God will raise up to get His Word to the people still waiting. We might not be here to see a Bible in the last language completed; those 7 and 8 year olds may be.
- Thanks for praying for wisdom for me at work (and for wisdom for me in general). My roommate was telling me the other day she learned that men nod their heads when they agree with something; women nod to indicate they're listening. Now I'm thinking, "great, what things do the guys I work with think I've agreed to when I was only trying to let them know I heard them". Unrelated work side note: I learned from work people that I regularly use these phrases: "In a perfect world..." and "If I ruled the world..." often in the same sentence. It's possible I might want to stop doing that...

A miracle in a flood: Ena Vander Molen is a Bible translator in the Philippines. A flash flood hit the area where she lives. She was asleep at the time. She woke up and discovered a foot of water (and rising) throughout her house; the refrigerator on its back in the living room (having tipped over and broken through the kitchen wall) and a sofa and other large items floating in the water. Her house in danger by the force of water (now pouring waist-high into her house), Ena crawled through a window only to be swept away in the strong current. She was able to grab hold of a slim tree and hang on for an hour until rescued. Returning later to her "totaled" house to survey the damage, Ena found upended furniture, displaced and destroyed possessions, her house completely off the foundations. And, her computer - full of translated materials and other important files - perched unharmed on the corner of her desk.

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(Enclose a note stating: For Sheryl Howe)



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