

Mon: Why would I have given John Hollman my password?

Tue: Girls rule; boys drool.

Wed: I do not heart dogs!

Thurs: Maybe just bubble wrap Sheryl's entire team...

Fri: Couple, two benefits of a company full of linguists

organization she represented—but it ended up more about management issues. It was interesting to me to see how management issues they deal with in their context are so very similar and at the same time so very different from my issues. Much of what we talked about

boiled down to: we want the people God picks, like Gideon with the narrowing it down to 300. All of our HR/management type issues all boil down to our desire to see God and not us, selecting the people, even if that means that we don't see the numbers we had hoped for (or, in my particular case, the gender mix we hope for). **Pray for people in HR positions to have wisdom in selecting people. Pray for Bible translation and literacy efforts in Ghana.**

Monday

Why would I have given John Hollman my password?

The current Africa area director is in the states briefly and met with my team to talk about email situation (we're in the midst of consolidating two email systems into one and his email happens to be on the system we're getting rid of). The challenge is making use of collaboration features --- features that require good internet connectivity --- in places where there isn't good internet connectivity. In the course of our meeting, I used John's laptop to log onto something and I asked (joking), "so now, you've not got key logger running saving my password?". To which he replied that no and he hadn't saved my password from when I gave it to him when I was in Uganda. I have no memory of having given him my password. Why would I do that? He doesn't remember but remembers that he used to know my password. I'm now racking my brain trying to come up with a scenario in which I would give John Hollman (or anyone) my password. An unsolved mystery I'm living with... **Pray for a solution for this email problem for people in parts of Africa with sub-optimal connectivity. Pray for better connectivity for those places. And pray for the Hollmans (John and Pam) in their huge task of directing much of the Bible translation effort in Africa.**

Tuesday

Girls rule; boys drool. I had a meeting with a Ghanaian woman who serves as a trustee for a Ghanaian Bible translation and Literacy organization. In a former position she worked as an advocate to get more women involved in careers in science and technology. So of course, she commented how in our IT department, there's not a good representation of my gender. The meeting was supposed to be about the technical needs of the

Wednesday

I do not heart dogs! One of the more terrifying experiences: having a loose dog chase after me snarling/barking when I'm running in my neighborhood. (a) People should not have loose dogs and (b) it is unhelpful when the dog owner witnesses their dog chase and/or bark at me and says this to me: "Oh, don't worry. He won't hurt you". I will worry when an animal with teeth is unrestrained and coming for me. Sometimes, if I am startled sufficiently, I will also scream. I am told that you should not let the dog know you are afraid. I am not sure how that is supposed to work. When I am terrified, it is highly unlikely that I'm not going to appear to be terrified. However, dog incidents remind me... **Praise God for safety (and pray for continued safety) and for good health and for protection (both physical from animals with teeth and spiritual).**

Thursday

Maybe just bubble-wrap Sheryl's entire team... This week one of the guys on my team returned from having been out for chemo. It is great to have him back, ...but he looks like he's been run over by a truck. Another guy was out for minor surgery last week. Surgery went well. Unfortunately, he reacted to painkillers of some kind and he fainted a couple times, one time falling and injuring his back. He's been in a lot

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of pain, not able to sit for long or sleep comfortably. And a third guy was in a serious bicycle accident. All contributing to my friend's comment that perhaps I should suggest bubble wrap as an option to protect them... ***Pray for recovery for those three (Jay, Cliff, and Jon) and for protection for all my team and for their families. I'm on board with bubble wrap if I thought it could help.***

Friday

Couple, two benefits of a company full of linguists:

Written communication: extremely well written. Take, for instance, the text of the motion where we adopted the vision that by the year 2025, a Bible translation project will be in progress for every people group that needs one (check it out; best read out loud):

Vision 2025 motion from 1999 Conference and Convention
"Motivated by the pressing need for all peoples to have access to the Word of God in a language that speaks to their hearts, and reaffirming our historic values and our trust in God to accomplish the impossible,

we embrace the vision that by the year 2025 a Bible translation project will be in progress for every people group that needs it.

We acknowledge that this cannot be accomplished simply by our working harder or doing more of what we are now doing. It will require us to make significant changes in our attitudes and ways of working.

Our desire is to build capacity for sustainable Bible translation programs and Scripture-use activities. Therefore, we urge each entity within our family of organizations to give priority to strengthening present partnerships, forming additional strategic partnerships, and working together to develop creative approaches appropriate to each context.

To this end we commit ourselves to pray for the fulfillment of this vision, seeking God's guidance and obeying Him in whatever new directions He may lead."

Potentially, you're not as impressed by this as I was. Did you read it out loud? (might help with the being impressed). It's 10 years since the motion passed. People are reviewing where we are ten years in and someone (actually it was John Hollman, the man inexplicably given my password by me in 2003... how's that for neatly tying this all together?) noted that we don't often look at the whole motion (usually just only the bolded part) and that the whole

motion is quite good. ...Pressing need, historic values, trust God to accomplish the impossible, pray, obey God in whatever new directions He may lead... Seriously, if I weren't already signed up, I'd want in on this one.

Lord, if it is you, order
me to come to you on
the water.

And Jesus said, 'Come'.

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