

ANLoc's* survey of 2,000 rural South Africans showed 5% had electricity, 2 (people, not percent) had computers and 70% had mobile phones!

*ANLoc is an organization working on localizing software (adapting software to different languages and regional differences) focused on African languages.

I got my hair cut at lunch Thursday. I had long hair in the morning. I came back after lunch with hair four inches shorter, about chin length. Apparently: no one noticed, OR they noticed but didn't say anything, OR the transformation was so spectacular, they think I'm an entirely new person. Just so you know, very bizarre to make some radical change without any acknowledgment at all even if the people in question are all male.

December 2005: the first month spam (the junk email messages we throw away) surpassed real mail. Today, on our email server, we throw away 80% (10.5 million messages) of the 13 million messages we receive each month. The amount of good mail has remained relatively stable; we've had to upgrade to handle processing spam – a cost of doing email.

Odd things make me happy.

This verse for instance:

Ps 69:5 **"O God, you know my stupidity..."** (GW*)

And this quote: (I know. It's long --- but I liked it so very much and thought you would too).

CS Lewis: "A silly idea is current that good people do not know what temptation means. This is an obvious lie. Only those who resist temptation know how strong it is. After all, you find out the strength of the German army by fighting against it, not by giving in. You find out the strength of the wind by trying to walk against it, not by lying down. A man who gives in to temptation after five minutes simply does not know what it would have been like an hour later. That is why bad people, in one sense, know very little about badness. They have lived a sheltered life by always giving in. We never find out the strength of the evil impulse inside us until we try to fight it and Christ, because he was the only man who never yielded to temptation, is also the only man who knows to the full what temptation means --- the only complete realist."

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. John 1:1, English

But what if there is no word for the word, 'word'?

Omun omun bibi googoon hen moin dolo
 Long ago long ago thing all the not be-and
 Long ago when there was not anything

Ayo God en hoon hen doli.
 Father God his child the be (past).
 there was Father God's child.

John 1:1, Samo, Papua New Guinea

The Bible verse above is from the second draft of John in the Samo language, which is being checked by Clyde and Johanna Smith (project advisers) and a consultant. Pray that it will be ready for publication later this year. "The translation of 'the word' into Samo seems almost impossible," Clyde comments. "We have not found a meaningful equivalent yet." Please pray.

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