

## HOW-e- THINGS ARE... July 2021

Our church printed business card-sized cards with the text of Romans 5:8, emphasizing the “while we were still sinners” part:

“God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were STILL sinners,  
CHRIST DIED FOR US.”

The cards are to share with people: as in ask if you can give them something, show them the card and say “isn’t that great news? God doesn’t expect us to clean up our act before we come to him.”: “while we were STILL sinners”

It is great news, of course it is. And there’s this:



167 million people do not have access to this good news in their own language because they don’t have any Scripture in their language.

But what a wonderful thing when they do:

“From now on we are no longer slaves, but we are free! We have a direct connection with God through his message.” -Armindo Lamiha, on the translation of the Bible into the Txitxopi language (Mozambique, Southern Africa)

By the way: The Greek that is translated as “sinner” in English is translated a bit differently in some South American languages: as “**people with bad hearts**” (“it is not enough to call them ‘people who do bad things,’ for though actions do reflect the heart, it is the hearts with which God is primarily concerned — see Matt. 15:19”) in Western Kanjobal (Guatemala), or similarly “**people who are doing wrong things in their hearts**” in San Blas Kuna (Panama and Colombia), and for a language where the stomach, not the heart, symbolizes the center or core of our being: “**people with bad stomachs**” in Q’anjob’al (Mexico and Guatemala).



**Shot of the creek in our woods behind our house. Photo credit: Steve (my brother).** He and the older boy cousins sent pictures from their July expedition: no poison ivy events and only one child fell into creek. I haven’t been back there since February when it looked *very* different.

At Work: At this month's "All Hands" meeting for my team, our Software Engineering Director introduced **five** new interns/volunteers/part time developers! And I got to announce fun news: a current staff person has accepted the Customer Relations Director role I've been hoping to fill (she is leaving the Software Engineering team to fill it --- so we now need a Product Manager).

- Pray for wisdom at work in prioritizing what to do among so many really wonderful options. I'd like to take on all of them.
- Pray for the Lord to send more laborers, particularly of the technical sort, but Wycliffe needs linguists and managers and accountants and teachers too... let me know if you're interested... *maybe God is calling you to serve in Bible Translation full time?*

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