

HOW-e- THINGS ARE... September 2021 by Sheryl (Howe) Nelson

Yes!

I got a COVID vaccine in March/April. Sadly, immunocompromised people (for instance, me) do not necessarily develop antibodies after being vaccinated. My test results a month after both shots indicated “NEGATIVE / NO” for COVID antibodies. The absence of antibodies doesn’t mean I had zero immunity I’m told. However, I’m very happy that after the third shot (recommended for kidney transplant recipients like me), my test results for antibodies came back “POSITIVE / YES” for COVID antibodies. Thank God for antibodies! 😊

No.

I was supposed to travel for work for the first time since COVID. I planned to be in North Carolina Aug 29 - Sep 4 for two sets of meetings. I was also going to clean out my office at work and visit friends.

I did travel. I drove to Waxhaw, NC on Sunday, stayed the night, got sick and drove back home the next day instead of attending meetings (and my office at work did not get emptied).

Travel for work attempt #1: Fail. 😞

Travel attempt for work #2 is to Dallas, Texas for two sets of meetings. The first set is October 18 - 20 and the second set is October 25 - 28. In between meetings Scott and I plan to visit his sister, Davida. I’ve only just faceted with her. I’m looking forward to meeting her in person along with other TX relatives / friends of Scott. Pray for success for travel-for-work-attempt-#2.

Amen!

“Whenever I sit at the desk to do [Bible] translation, it’s like I’m sitting with God at the same desk; we are facing one another. There’s really no benefit like what I get from translation.”

- Pastor Bennett Marona (*pictured at the 2017 Celebration of the **Baka** New Testament & Genesis, South Sudan, West Africa*).

Pastor Bennett persevered through unimaginable circumstances, the results of years of prolonged civil war. And yet, at the dedication of the New Testament, he said his favorite part was when the boxes of New Testaments were opened and hundreds of **Bakas** rushed forward to get their copies. “At that time”, he says, “I forgot all of the challenges I went through.”



See:

<https://www.wycliffe.org/blessed/blessed-to-persevere> to read his story / watch a short video.

In non-work travels: Scott and I went to Colorado to visit my sister and brother-in-law, Stephanie & Jim, at the beginning of August (my first time on a plane since COVID).



This month (Sep), we went to the Chattanooga, TN area to see Scott's youngest son, Peter, before he leaves for Army basic training Oct 5 and visit Scott's daughter, son-in-law, and two grandkids. In other words, we went to see grandkids and happened to visit their parents and Peter in the process. 😊

We also went to Alabama this month for my mom's birthday and for Scott and my brother, Steve, to repair water damage to my mom's carport.

My mom was a good sport about the birthday hats, the trick relighting candles and an indestructible piñata.



For Prayer

- Pray for wisdom at work in relationships that can be challenging and also in prioritizing what to do among so many great opportunities. I'd take on all of them if I could.
- Praise God that the health issue causing work-travel-attempt-#1 to fail seems to have fixed itself. There was an ER visit, a conclusion that surgery may be needed and some follow up visits that indicated no surgery and now the problem resolved. I have a further follow up scheduled for Oct just to be sure.
- 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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"Frontier Days", Cheyenne, Wyoming
