

Hola!!!

It has been some time since we have written! We are still in beautiful Costa Rica! Ana continues her work as a principal at her high school and helps with promotion of the West Bengal Sign Language dictionary while I have been intensifying my Spanish lessons, applying for residency, and researching ministry work and jobs. Slow going but God is with us.



Ana's school



The flowering plants are awesome!

WBSL dictionary usage

Ana promoted the WBSL Facebook page to reach more Deaf people and as a result we are getting more views of the videos and website. We now have 59 YouTube subscribers, 12,241 views of the videos from people in 47 countries and 164 views of website.



website



Facebook page

Some communications we have had on the project include: A high school girl and a professor at Michigan State University wanting to learn the WBSL; an Indian man asked how to raise pigs after seeing the video clip of pigs. After having worked on fish aquaculture in India I am familiar with the United Nations work on agricultural development and was able to direct him to an article that is culturally appropriate for pig farming in India.

Costa Rica Residency.....

Residency is a new challenge in my missionary journey. I have needed to obtain several documents from the US vital check, have them apostilled, and then translated to Spanish. After a year or trying, our marriage was officially recognized in Costa Rica last week. These documents along others (totally 12) are almost all ready to submit. I just need to pay the registration fees, get my fingers printed, get photocopies certified, and attend an interview in order to apply for a Temporary Residency permit. Hopefully we can do this in a week or two.

Illnesses....

Please be praying for Stephen Barton (with EBT) who is being diagnosed for a heart condition that has caused his heart to stop beating twice. Also pray for Ana's father who in the hospital waiting for surgery.

Spanish.....

Unlike India, where you can get by with a mix of English, Hindi....and a lot of hand gestures; I need to learn the local language (Spanish) here. Pray for me as I still reply to simple questions in Hindi....or I sign (West Bengal Sign Language) or I mix English, WBSL, Hindi and Spanish....Ug! It has been hard to get my brain to just focus on Spanish. Praise the Lord, I am improving however!

What is God teaching me?

Life is in a great transition (.....still) and I have been asked, "What do I want to do?". In the flesh I am tempted to say things I enjoy the most. But when I really set back and analysed it, I recognize personal pleasure is fleeting and

does not hold a long-term satisfaction or fulfilment. God turned the question from "What do I want to do" to "What is right to do". I realize that to do right is sometimes self-sacrifice, not "fun", often upsets people, and isolates you. But, in the end I have more respect for myself, I have more peace, and I feel more fulfilled. So the answer to my friend is, "I want to do what is right." Yes I need to have a vision, for I will perish without it...., but in the mean-time, I need to do what is right, and the vision God will give, direct and then fulfil.

Thank you all for your love, prayers and support.

With Christ's Love,

Russell and Ana
506-84479152 (please use whatsapp),
rjohnson.ebt@gmail.com

For further support into the ministry, please send your check to:

Evangel Bible Translators
PO Box 669
Rockwall, TX 75087
(please remember to write Russell Johnson in the memo)