

Hills' Fall 2021 Update

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To: Josh Rivera <josh@mlbc.org>

The Heart of the Hills Newsletter, Fall 2021



Dear Friends,

Our colleague, Andre, with whom we worked in Tanzania, recently attended the Simbiti New Testament dedication event and shared the photo above with us. The men with traditional musical instruments are leading the way for the printed New Testaments in the gift box behind them. Dusty was a part of the original survey team that worked with the Simbiti people back in 2006 to decide to partner together to translate Scripture into the



Cooperisms:
Cooper, frustrated and eating Oreos, "I am

Simbiti language. Seeing that the NT is complete has been a very important highlight for us and everyone who has been a part of bringing God's Word to these amazing people! Please pray that the Word has an eternal impact in the lives of the Simbiti people!

In his new leadership position, Dusty continues to take a 'one day at a time' approach. One of the challenges is that the team is understaffed for the work that we already have. If you know anything about missions or the non-profit world, this is not a new problem!!! God has blessed the team by bringing on more consultants, but He has yet to bring someone into Dusty's previous role. We would appreciate your prayers for the Lord to call the right people to join the team soon.

You may be thinking, "*Dusty serves with Seed Company, but what exactly does he do? What **impact** is he having?*" Well, I wish the answer was an easy one! Many of our national partners (think Nigerians, SE Asians, Latin Americans, Kenyans, etc...) play a vital role in the global Scripture translation effort but they depend on Wycliffe and Seed Company to fund their work. As a result, those partners often look to western money to guide them and prioritize their ministry, rather than the Church. Ouch! The team that Dusty leads helps those partners in their *organizational development* efforts so that they are better rooted in their own *churches, national identities, and economies*. Many organizational leaders desire to engage their national churches and be less dependent on western resources, but they do not know how to make that transition. Our team, now called **Growth Partners**, has supported over 20 partners in their desire to become rooted in a healthier way. In our

hungry and need some self-esteem food!"

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Traveling the Hill Road

Dusty is meeting with partners in Europe right now!

next letter, Dusty will give an example of the impact the team is having.

We hope that you are experiencing God's truth, freedom, and power in your life. We know that your faithful prayer and partnership are facilitating others to experience these as well, and we truly could not be in this ministry without you. Thank you!

In His Grip,
Kim for Dusty, Tessa (16), Jack (14), and Cooper (10)

Prayer & Praise

- * Praise for God's provision for our family
- * Praise for good health and international travel reopening
- * Prayer for the Simbiti people as they now have the NT in their language
- * Prayer for the Lord to bring the right people to join our team

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