Every year new missionaries embark on the journey of a lifetime — a career with Wycliffe. For many, that career will take them hundreds or thousands of miles away from home and the familiar faces of the ones they love. Some will serve in large cities, others in remote areas. But no matter where they serve, no matter how far from home, they will cling to the support of loved ones — faithful friends and family who are backing them in this God-appointed adventure.

Leah Veil is one such missionary. She’s currently building a team of prayer and financial partners in preparation to serve as a registered nurse in Papua New Guinea. In the coming months, Leah will encounter many new experiences — some thrilling, some exhausting and perhaps even some that are scary. But Leah goes with the knowledge that a team of faithful partners is not only backing her in what she does, but is literally making her journey possible. She isn’t a lone missionary acting in obedience to God. She’s a brave representative acting on behalf of each of the amazing men and women who are sending her.

Leah says, “I have a picture that I love. It was taken in a tiny, dirt-floored room in Guatemala. You notice the faces in the photograph, brightening the room with radiant smiles — mine and the smiles of two women I worked with during my six months in Guatemala. This photo is so precious to me because it graphically shows how, when two or three are gathered in Christ’s name, he is there with them (Matthew 18:20).

“Not too long ago, I had a dream. The only thing in the dream was that picture. Only it was different. In place of many of the original faces were faces of people I’ve never met before. In place of the two women from the ministry team were the faces of my friends and family. The message of the dream was clear — missions is not about individual missionaries. It’s about the body of Christ standing together to paint a portrait of Christ for the lost to see. It’s about coming together to accomplish the Great Commission.”

Leah and other missionaries like her rely heavily on the support and encouragement of their partners. Even though it will be her feet on the ground, those partners will be there with her in many ways. And once Leah settles in to her work, she will link arms with other men and women who will work alongside her to fulfill God’s purpose. Missions truly is about the body of Christ working to bring God’s Word of hope and healing to everyone.

Without question, we’re all in this together.
DEAR FRIENDS,

One of the opportunities that my wife, Dallas, and I most enjoy is welcoming new missionaries into Wycliffe when they come to Orlando for training. Like Leah, who is featured in the cover story, each comes intent on helping to fulfill Jesus’ command in Matthew 28:19: “Go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (NLT). And each one shares our conviction that disciples are best made when they can hear God speak to them in the language of their hearts.

Leah is right when she says, “Missions is not about individual missionaries. It’s about the body of Christ standing together to paint a portrait of Christ for the lost to see.” We are all part of God’s global mission, and we can only accomplish the work God has for us to do in this world if we do it together. Your role as a financial and prayer partner in Wycliffe’s Bible translation work is vital to making God’s name known among the nations.

Thank you for partnering with us and helping us to deliver this life-changing Word to people in their own languages. Your decision to become involved in this Great Commission work changes hearts and lives for eternity. You are a part of bringing hope and healing into the hearts of people in every corner of the world.

Bob Creson
President, CEO
Wycliffe Bible Translators USA