Prayer is one of the most significant ways you can help people get the Bible in their heart language. You may not clearly see the answers to your prayers, but some people do. Bob and Betsy Eagar are among them.

In November 1982, Bob and Betsy were living in Atlanta with their two children. That’s when they first heard about Wycliffe’s Bibleless People Prayer Project (BPPP), a program that helps people pray for specific language groups that need Bible translation.

They were assigned to pray for the Iyaru, a language community in Southeast Asia.

Years passed. Then one day Bob and Betsy learned that Wycliffe was sending a husband-and-wife team to the Iyaru people to start a translation project!

Bob and Betsy decided to partner with Craig and Sarah Marshall financially. They also began receiving their updates and prayer letters. This continued for many years. Then Bob and Betsy had the opportunity to meet the Marshall family face-to-face.

“It was wonderful to get to meet them,” Betsy shared, “these people that we had been supporting and praying for all these years!”

The Marshalls were equally excited about meeting Bob and Betsy. “They welcomed us, and, with tears in their eyes, told us how much they appreciated us and our efforts out among the Iyaru,” Sarah shared. “They told us they felt so blessed being a part of our team, and we felt exactly the same way about them!”

It was a joyous occasion for both families to finally meet in person on that day in Georgia, but that’s not the end of the story for the Eagars, the Marshalls and the Iyaru people.

When Bob retired in the early 2000s, he began volunteering in the “JESUS” film department at Cru, in Orlando. Almost 10 years later — in the beginning of 2014 — he learned that Iyaru was on a list of languages needing a translation of the “JESUS” film. Bob excitedly shared the news with Betsy and their children. As soon as they heard, they decided as a family that they wanted to help fund that project too.

“To me, [this] is a cool thing that has happened in our lives,” Betsy shared, “that we have been a part of what God is doing, from praying for that people group to now being able to help the ‘JESUS’ film be translated for them.”

Now in their 70s, Bob and Betsy still pray for and support work among the Iyaru. Their story began over 30 years ago, and only recently have they learned how all these pieces of the bigger picture came together. But after so many years of faithful dedication, the Eagar family is seeing just that, and it’s a beautiful thing.
DEAR FRIENDS,

It's always inspiring to hear about people like Bob and Betsy Eager (front page), who have faithfully prayed for a Bibleless people group over many years. We have seen time and again that prayer is a powerful tool in reaching people with God's Word.

Picture yourself in the shoes of Craig and Sarah Marshall. Can you imagine how significant it is to them to know that Bob and Betsy have been praying for them and for the people group they serve all these years? Prayer connects us, no matter where we are in the world, and it strengthens us because we realize that together we serve a God who hears our prayers and answers them for his glory.

The Bibleless Peoples Prayer Project (BPPP) counts more than 20,000 prayer partners like the Eagers, each praying for a specific people group in need of God's Word in a language that speaks directly to their hearts. If you're not yet part of the BPPP, I invite you to begin praying for these people groups — from now until they receive the Scriptures in their language.

Thank you for partnering with us in both prayer and finances, so that everyone everywhere will soon have the opportunity to engage with God's Word in the language they understand best.

Warmly in Christ,

Bob Creson
President, CEO
Wycliffe Bible Translators USA

FROM WAR TO PEACE — SOUTH AMERICA

In one village in South America, Bible stories are being shared and people are becoming more interested in learning about the gospel as their lives are changed. “Our village used to have a reputation for not getting along,” Lino said. “There could never be a meeting or event without it ending in a big fight. It got to a point where no one wanted to live there and people started moving to other places. Now, things are really different. We are doing better and our village is becoming such a good place to live that people who left are returning, and others are coming to live with us.”

TALKING TO GOD FOR YOURSELF — BRAZIL

One day, Rajua noticed that when the Seabo pray, they pray to Deus and not Kanavoá, the word they have for God. So he asked them why. They told him that Kanavoá only speaks to the shaman and never with the people; only the shaman can talk to Kanavoá, and no one else. Shamanism is very strong among the Seabo, but the Christians realize that they want to talk to God personally. And to do that, they need to find a word that lets them know that they can speak to him directly thanks to Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross.