

OCTOBER 2004

# Riders' Recordings



SERVING TOGETHER WITH WYCLIFFE SINCE 1997



Thank you Lord! It is something we often pray when we have something good happen to us. How often do we forget to praise Him during the hard times? These last three months have been



quite extraordinary. Maybe not by God's standards, but around the Rider household we learned to thank Him now even when we don't see His hand at work. You see, it all started when we arrived at the JFK airport in New York. We were in the process of checking in our eight bags. The woman behind the counter was very patient as she several times attempted to check our bags all the way through to Yaoundé, Cameroon. Then came those words that we who often fly the friendly skies dread hearing: "Joe and Donna, your luggage has been selected for a special security check." She then asked us to give her Tyler and Austin's bags. We chose four bags to check in that would go through with no problems. We then proceeded with the other four to the special security check. We watched as TSA security looked through our bags and then resealed them. We then checked these four bags in as well. We headed to our gate to await our flight to Brussels. After our arrival in Yaoundé, we went to pick up our bags. The first four came out rather quickly and the next four never

appeared. The next night two more bags came and a week later a third bag appeared at the airport on another airline. The last bag was a very important bag, as many of you know. It contained some important recording equipment and software for our work here in Cameroon. Through your many prayers, our last bag arrived a little over five weeks after our arrival. I can't say that we didn't worry about the bag. But somewhere during the process God spoke to our hearts and said that it was His bag and that if He wants us to go on without it, it truly was His choice. Resting in that and knowing that many of you were praying daily gave us comfort.

God wasn't through with this lesson yet. On September 5<sup>th</sup> the engine for our truck arrived in the port city of Douala. Last year while we were on home assignment, back in Cameroon a colleague was driving our truck when something seriously went wrong with the engine. Needless



to say, we were going to have to replace the engine. We came to the conclusion that it was God's truck and if He wanted us to spend a large amount of money for a new engine,

it was His choice. God spoke to my heart during my quiet time. As I (Joe) poured through some of David's Psalms, I came to the realization that this was an occasion to praise the Lord. God desires

our praises even when we don't feel like it. Psalm 34 verse one reads, "I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise will continually be in my mouth." So when our engine got stuck in customs for three weeks, we really didn't worry too much but we shared the burden with others to pray. The engine was released from customs with no extra charges. Praise the Lord! God allows us to go through tough times to help us and others grow through our experiences. He never promised it would be easy but He did promise to never leave us or forsake us.

Other news is that we have hit the ground running. Joe will start with a three-week recording trip in the far northern part of Cameroon. To get there it will take a 12-hour train ride and an 8-hour bus ride. During those three weeks there will be at least five recordings. They vary from a dramatized version of the Gospel of Mark (for the languages Hdi and Mbuko) to recording new songbooks for the Moloko, Vamé and Ouldémé peoples. These songbooks will also be used as literacy materials. There are also a couple more recordings waiting in the wings depending on time constraints. Joe has a new partner in his department, his former boss Duane Troyer. Duane is very excited about how language groups can gain access to God's Word through audio and video materials.

Donna is working in the administrative offices as the assistant to the Director of General Administration. She takes care of missionary visas, driver's licenses, and travel arrangements just to name a few things. She really keeps the Cameroon branch of SIL going. Tyler



has started at Rain Forest International School (RFIS) and is in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. He is now a teenager. Boy, where has the time gone since we brought home that little tow-headed baby? Austin is at the American School of

Yaoundé (ASOY) and is in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. He enjoys being in class with his best friend Jonathan Jenkins. Austin and three friends get to taxi each day to school with a Christian taxi driver from Kom. By the way, the Kom people will be getting their New Testament in the next year.

*Serving Him together,  
Joe, Donna, Tyler & Austin*



***Direct  
Line In***

**Praise - all of our luggage  
has arrived!**

**Prayer - that Joe's recording  
trip will go well and the  
equipment will function  
properly.**

**Praise - our engine has  
arrived!**

**Prayer - that our vehicle will  
be repaired quickly and be  
up and running soon.**

**Praise - the boys are doing  
well in school.**

**Prayer - that Donna will be  
able to speak French well as  
she uses it quite frequently  
in her job.**

***Our Address:***  
Joe & Donna Rider  
B.P. 1299  
Yaoundé, CAMEROON

***Phone:***  
011.237.711.13.09

***E-mail:***  
joe-donna\_rider@sil.org

***Website:***  
[www.in-cameroon.co.uk/  
Riders/index.htm](http://www.in-cameroon.co.uk/Riders/index.htm)

