



## *Introducing Brielle Christine Hill*

We are very glad to have welcomed Brielle on April 20<sup>th</sup>. She was 6 lbs and 18.5 inches long. She immediately captivated her older 3 brothers and Dash finally came around this week. Joscelyn had an unexpectedly long labor (25 hours) but has recovered quickly. We are incredibly thankful to our friends and fellow missionaries in Dar es Salaam who stepped in with midnight child care and hosting us for our time in Dar. We left the hospital when Brielle was only 11 hours old, so it was especially wonderful to be hosted by some friends for a few days there in the capitol. It is a delight to watch Joscelyn with a daughter! And I certainly feel that precious joy in holding my little girl!

We are back in Morogoro in our teammates' guest apartment. Our teammates have been a tremendous help. While we are here the boys have begun their schooling with their new teacher Clare. They have successfully navigated their first week together and are all adjusting to the new routine and structures. Before they began the week, the boys were a little unsure about switching from schooling with mom to someone else, but they had a great week together and have really gelled with Miss Clare. We are so grateful to have Clare here, and thankful to see her doing such a great job with the boys. Clare finished her formal language school just the week before and will be continuing with a tutor part time for the next few weeks while she is teaching.

*Makonde Bible*

Stephen is continuing to work with the Makonde Bible translation team long distance on the book of Romans, and he is researching and negotiating some possible changes to the orthography for Makonde. Marking tone is a challenge for an inexperienced reader so he is working through some possible changes that would make the Bible more readable. The Makonde Bible translators are also currently team checking the book of Hebrews together, and they have been translating the first few chapters of Genesis. We are excited to have added the book of Genesis to the books we are currently translating. Genesis is foundational to understanding who God is, who we are in light of Him, how this world got into the crazy mess it's in, and what God has done (continues to do) about that mess we made. It's also particularly helpful in bridging the gap between Christians and people of the other major world religion in our area. We plan to have at least half of Genesis published before publishing the New Testament in about three years.

In a week and a half, Stephen will head back to our area in the southeast to secure a house for us to live in! We have two solid possibilities and are definitely looking forward to being able to permanently unpack! Transitions on top of transitions have been a challenge this year but we are so thankful for God's faithfulness to meet our needs every day! He will also spend some time with the Makonde Bible translation team checking more of the book of Romans.

## *Prayer*

- Praise God for a safe delivery and continued good health for baby Brielle and Joscelyn. Please pray for them to continue to stay healthy and happy, especially while Stephen is gone on his trip to the southeast.
- Please pray that Stephen's trip to the southeast in a couple weeks will be fruitful in providing us a home in the new town we will be moving to.
- Please pray for the health of the Makonde Bible translators and their families. Rainy season is always a challenge health-wise, and this one has been longer and more challenging than usual. Pray specifically one of them who had surgery over a year ago for a hernia and still has trouble with his surgery site. He recently aggravated it with the physical demands of harvesting and is in pain again.
- Praise God for Clare coming to work with us in reaching the Makonde people, and that she is doing so well with her language learning and cultural adaptation. Please pray that her language acquisition and cultural adaptation continues to go well even while taking on the task of teaching our four boys and going through so many transitions.

- Please pray for God to direct the translation of the Bible here every day and for the decisions that are made about how to write the tone on the Makonde language so that in everything God's Story would be as clear and down-home as it possibly can be, touching people's hearts as they see how near our God really is.