

A Dream Becomes a Reality

And His name will be the hope of all the world.” ~ Matt. 12:21

(Picture taken by my brother in North Carolina, USA- where my mother and father's family recently had family reunions!

First comes a story...

In May, one of the local pastors introduced us to a girl named “Anne” and that same week we had started crafting stories! While she is not a believer, Anne enjoys helping us. Though we are still learning the process of storying, the crafting of the Kahani Creation story (over several days) looked something like this:

- 1) Recorded Scripture Portions: Kahani Bible translators had already translated the scriptures needed for this story into Kahani. We recorded it and also recorded scriptures portions in the trade language.
- 2) Listened and Discussed: Anne listened to the recordings and we talked through the story- discussing what was important and what details could be left out (for example, the names of the four rivers in Genesis 2).
- 3) Discussed some more: We asked questions about each part of the story, such as: “Do Kahani people have a story about the beginning of the world in their culture? Is marking of time important in Kahani culture (i.e. day 1, day 2).
- 4) Attempted to tell the story: Anne tried to tell the story. She did well, but had mainly memorized the scripture recordings (quite

a feat!)! We’re still working with her to tell the story naturally, not just memorize it!

5) Discussed again: Anne had included parts we talked about leaving out. She had included most everything since she thought that’s what we wanted. You could see the relief on her face when she finally realized that we were making a shortened story- not trying to reproduce the Bible!

6) Recorded the story. And this was only the first draft! We already have 6 drafts of the Creation story and it’s still not “done!”



Anne (right) and her friend in the sewing class that meets daily in the church.

Then Comes Back-translating and Re-crafting...

After crafting the first draft, we ask a local to back-translate it (translate from Kahani into English), and re-craft it to fix any mistakes found. For example, it was coming through that the tree that gives knowledge of good and evil was one tree with two kinds of fruit- some fruit that is good, and some that is rotten. To fix this, we listened to the recordings again and drew pictures to help Anne understand.



Sharing a much appreciated package from home with other questers at training.

Then Comes Testing...

Once our crafter and we feel comfortable with the story, we "test" it- which means our crafter tells the story to someone who hasn't heard it before. We ask people to retell the story as well as ask various questions to check their understanding of the story. From people's responses, we can tell if there are more things to change to make the story better or clearer. For example, people were struggling to differentiate between Cain and Abel since those names are so unfamiliar. We changed this to older and younger brother- and people have since been able to remember.

Press On...

Recently, I've been encouraged by other questers to press on toward the goal in spite of distractions around me, whatever they may be. I've also been reminded that even if I may not understand the struggle at the time, I can trust that our Father is working in my best interest!

Praises:

- * Story-crafters- we have found people to craft stories!
- * Transportation- purchasing a motorcycle has allowed us to do more in less time!
- * Robin and I have been able to divide and conquer some of our work!

Prayers

- * Kahani people- that their hearts would be ready for His story.
- * Wisdom- for us and our story crafters !
- * Robin's and my relationship- that we would be encouraged as we work together.

Schedule:

July 12-28: Training in Thailand
September: Possible consultant check

Until All Have Heard,
~ Elizabeth