

---

---

# Tauberschmidt's Newsletter

---

Christmas edition, Dec. 2004

**Dear friends,**

This year we are sending you our Christmas Greetings from Germany. We left Papua New Guinea early July and have been staying with Gerhard's parents since. We are hoping to find a suitable home for our family soon. It wasn't easy to say goodbye to the many good friends we got to know over the years – we first arrived in PNG in 1987, 17 years ago.



We are happy to witness the completion of another New Testament we have been involved with. After the Kalo language committee had completed the final read-through of the Kalo New Testament, I was quite surprised to discover that they had suggested many changes concerning the orthography. Although we had agreed on orthography matters a couple of years ago, they changed their minds and wanted to alter many of their word breaks. It was a lot of work to make all the proposed changes and to formulate new rules so that the new alphabet could be consistent. But thankfully we were able to revise the orthography just in time for the typesetting date of the Kalo NT.

Last year we started to offer biblical language courses (Greek & Hebrew) to national co-translators and future consultants. These courses were much appreciated by our PNG colleagues, so we developed a whole curriculum for Biblical Studies, which includes exegesis, introduction, backgrounds, Biblical Hebrew, NT Greek, and consultant training.



These courses are offered in a two-year cycle and are taught by a number of people. Next year in Oct./Nov. Gerhard is scheduled to travel back to PNG in order to teach the NT exegesis course.

He is also thinking of developing these courses into distance or e-learning courses so that a wider audience of national translators and future consultants in various countries will be able to have access to Biblical Studies, that are particularly designed for the work of Bible translation.

The transition from PNG to Germany has brought its challenges, especially for our children Manuel and Marietta.



They are now immersed in German culture and language, and at school everything is taught in German. This is a big change since they have attended English speaking schools almost all their lives and so communication problems do occur.



Our daughter Marietta once complained that her schoolmates don't understand what she is saying, although she talks in German. The problem is that she uses English idioms, style, and sometimes even English grammar when she speaks in German. In addition, she finds difficulty with understanding certain German figures of speech. These problems will decrease as time goes by, and even now things are already becoming easier, and the kids are starting to get used to life in Germany.

Hiltrud did a re-entry course to get a job and part of the course was to work in an old people's home, but it is difficult to find a job these days. Gerhard has been busy with teaching. In October he taught exegesis for future Bible translators at our German Wycliffe centre, and in Nov./Dec. he taught a (3 credit hour) post graduate course, "New Testament Exegesis and Tools", at the Academy for World Mission in Korntal, which is a branch of Columbia International University, USA.

We will continue to work for Wycliffe Bible translators being based in Germany. Gerhard will concentrate on developing and teaching courses in Biblical Studies. Thank you for all your prayers and financial support without which this work would not have been possible.

All best wishes and blessings,

**Gerhard, Hiltrud,  
Manuel, Marietta**

Published doctoral thesis:

G. Tauberschmidt, *Secondary Parallelism: A Study of Translation Technique in LXX Proverbs* (Academia Biblica, 15. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2004) & (Academia Biblica, 15. Leiden, Boston: Brill, 2004).

Dr. G. & H. Tauberschmidt,  
Kirchklingenweg 2/1  
74538 Rosengarten-Rieden  
Germany  
E-mail: gerhard\_tauberschmidt@sil.org

Contributions:

KD-Bank,  
Sort code (BLZ): 350 601 90,  
Account No. (Konto Nr.): 1013 440 014,  
Recipient: Wycliff e.V.,  
Purpose: For Tauberschmidts project