

In His Hands

(Isaiah 49:16)



March 2004

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Dear Friends and Family,

Greetings from JAARS, Wycliffe's training center in Waxhaw, NC. After three years of aviation training and two years of working at Moody Aviation in Elizabethton, TN, I'm excited about how God is enabling me to move towards supporting Bible translation through aviation.

As I mentioned in my last newsletter, I was accepted as a member of Wycliffe Bible Translators in early October last year. I spent the last two weeks of October in Orlando, FL at Wycliffe's corporate headquarters attending Training Camp, for an orientation to Wycliffe and some essential information to help me prepare to serve full time.

At the end of December, I stopped flying/working full-time and transitioned to the JAARS center to be trained full time. Since the beginning of January, I have completed three courses: Spiritual Discipleship, ICC (InterCultural Communications Course) and Intro to Management.

On March 8th, I begin the last course, Aviation Technical Orientation. This course involves specific training focusing on flying and maintaining aircraft in the remote regions of the world. Mountain Week, the final week of this course, is centered in the Appalachian Mountains and involves a number of very specialized runways. One runway is 800 feet long (less than three football fields) and gains 150 feet vertically from one end of the runway to the other.

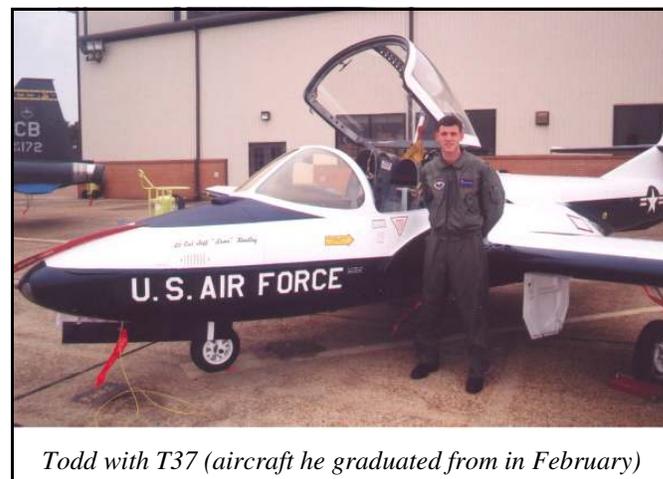
During this course, I will also be working with the staff here at JAARS to finalize a field of assignment. There are significant needs immediately in Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Cameroon and the Philippines, although there are other



Training Camp in Orlando, FL



Christmas 2003 with Mom and Dad



Todd with T37 (aircraft he graduated from in February)

possibilities as well. I am looking forward to this process and finding out where the Lord would have me serve. The significant needs in these countries certainly means there is no shortage of opportunities.

As many of you know, Wycliffe missionaries are supported by individuals and churches who are called by God to fulfill the Great Commission through both financial and prayer partnerships. Now that I have quit working full time in order to train full time as a missionary, I am also beginning this transition. Some of you have already expressed an interest in partnering for which I am very thankful and greatly encouraged. I am thankful that not only is God calling me to go, but He is also calling others to send. I have included a brochure from Wycliffe that includes more about Wycliffe, the great privilege the church has in carrying God's Word to those that do not have it and some of the ways that you can be involved. Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration.



I am very excited as I see the Lord continue to lead and provide for my training here at JAARS. After many years of mission aviation training and teaching the same to others at Moody Aviation, it's amazing to realize that I could potentially be transitioning overseas in less than a year. Thank you for your love and prayers. May the Lord bless you.

In Him,

Robert Peterson

Praise Items:

1. Being able to spend time with my parents while I train at JAARS and be available to help around the house while dad recovers from surgery
2. For Todd's strong finish of Phase II in the T-37 with the Air Force and that I was able to attend his Track Select ceremony.
3. For good health and strength for Damaris as she carries their first child (I'm going to be an uncle!)
4. For a successful surgery (March 1st) for Dad's prostate cancer and that his lymph nodes are also clear.

Prayer requests:

1. Safety and good training experiences during Aviation Tech. Orientation.
2. For the Lord's guidance as I consider possible fields for assignment.
3. For my brother as he continues his flight training and Damaris as she prepares for her first child.
4. For a strong and quick recovery for my dad from surgery.
5. For wisdom as I seek those whom the Lord would have partner with me in supporting Bible translation.

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