



Evaluations

It is humanly impossible to learn a language without making mistakes. A child learning to talk has difficulty saying r's and th's or they frequently say "he goed" instead of "he went". Learning a language as an adult is similar. But how do you know you are speaking incorrectly unless someone corrects you? Parents and teachers often help kids realize their mistakes so they can correct them. But let's imagine that no one tells the child. How long would it be before they noticed on their own?

One thing our language consultants noticed when we were doing our evaluations was that the language helpers were very reluctant to correct anything we said. That made the consultants' job more difficult, because they didn't know the language and were very dependent on feedback from the language helper to know whether we were speaking correctly.

There was one day that we set up with our helper, Tim, to come the next morning, but he never showed up. When we asked him about it, he said he had lots of visitors at his house, and he didn't want to leave them by themselves. We were perplexed. Didn't he see how important this was? The next day, he did show up and helped us all day. At one point, he said, "Someone asked me to saw wood today and earn a good day's wage, but I thought, 'I'm going to go help the

missionaries so they can teach my people God's Word." I was blown away. We tried to pay him the wage he gave up, but he wouldn't take it.



Long hours of language & culture evaluations



Left: Blessed fellowship with the consulting team

Right: The boys loved hanging out with "Aunt" Fran, the wife of one of the consultants



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Change in Plans

Overall, we were encouraged by the consultants' visit and our boys wanted them to never leave. We all had such a nice time of fellowship. We brought them to town and were looking into Rachel's health issues. We had planned to return to the US for Home Assignment in February, but due to her health issues, we have decided to return earlier. If the Lord allows, we should arrive in Michigan for Christmas! Afterward, we plan to head to Idaho, and spend several months in the area. In the summer, we would like to return to Michigan for some time as well.

Thank you for your prayers for us!

In Christ,

Brian & Rachel Rich



Left: Us and our village house
Right: Posing with our coworker, Ed, and some of the people

Praise God:

-That our evaluations finally happened and they were encouraging to us

Please Pray:

- For wisdom in packing, planning, and traveling
- For our flights to be on schedule
- That we could figure out the cause of Rachel's ongoing health issues

You can keep up with our family on any of the networks below or at our blog.



 [Rachel](#)

 [Our Blog](#)

 [Brian](#)

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