

Volker and JinHyeog Glissmann

Location: **Blantyre, MALAWI**

Mission: **Theological education**



The Glissmanns are living in Malawi. Jinhyeog is involved in a local Primary School as a music teacher. Volker works off-campus as a programme developer for TEEC, the Theological Education by Extension College in Johannesburg, South Africa, and does grassroots theological training in Malawi.

Update on Knowing God, Knowing Jesus Translation

Just before Christmas, the TEEM Director and I went to talk to the Bible Society here in Blantyre to present our request and find out the conditions under which the Chichewa translation could be used for the courses. They asked for a detailed breakdown of all the Bible verses cited in the courses which we have submitted. Still they indicated that they are looking for something for the use of the translation. We shall see when we hear from them.

Update on Malawi

2025 is an election year. We will have general elections in September this year. Malawi is experiencing a forex crisis. For example, I bought new glasses from my optician but was told they would only be ready when the bank allocates forex to pay the South African supplier. Until then, I have to wait.

The forex crisis also affected the import of petrol and diesel. Since October, the fuel supply has been erratic, and there have been many days when the four filling stations close to our house have all been completely dry. If fuel is available, then long queues will immediately form. Still, because the filling stations only get a proportion of what they need, the fuel is usually finished within a few hours. There is a restriction on how much fuel one is allowed to buy. This drives up the price of everything. Inflation is already too high.

A few days ago, the US government announced the freeze of all international aid, including to Malawi, which will have huge implications for the health sector, education, climate emergency responses, and food security. This is not a good start to the year.

Prayer Points

- Pray for the challenges that Malawi is facing and for wisdom for the government.
- Pray for everyone involved in the discussions about the translation so that a good long-term solution can be made about the translation of the courses. Please pray also for the translation project.
- Please continue to pray for the health and safety of the whole family.