

follow God's leading

and he will give you opportunities

Lance and Gwen Tremlett began their work in the Northern Territory over 40 years ago on Groote Eylandt; Lance as a builder and Gwen as a home management instructress. In their first 20 years they developed long-lasting relationships that earned them respect and trust of the community. These relationships were the foundation that has enabled them to be an integral part of the Kriol bible translation team over the last 20 years.



Above: Kriol team checking the last verses of the Kriol Baibul with Bible Society consultant Carl Gross May 2005.
Left: Council meeting at Angurugu in the 80's. Lance is on the right in the first circle.



There are so many opportunities to serve the Lord working within another culture by just using the gifts God has given us. God called us to put him first in our lives and to be obedient to him. Being obedient to that call has led us on an exciting journey with remarkable challenges. We aren't great scholars or academics, but our great God has still been prepared to entrust us with his work.

During the first 20 years of working in Aboriginal ministry we were involved in many practical tasks. First of all there was the need to build relationships and learn some of this new culture we were immersed in. We did a wide array of things such as building, teaching, and administration within Community Government Councils, and support work in communities. We trained people as Sunday School teachers, in leading Bible Studies, preached, shared in the local church life and tutored students for Nungalinga courses. All these roles gave endless opportunities to live for Christ in some very difficult situations, as well

as to share the gospel and to encourage people in their walk with Jesus in different aspects of their lives.

For the last 20 years God called us to very different roles that have given us new opportunities and challenges. These have led us into learning the local language and being involved in the fields of literacy, both in teaching and in the production of books. What a privilege it was to be able to teach people to read their own language using God's Word and to see the joy it brought in their lives!

"The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it."
1 Thessalonians 5:24

From there we moved into the role of helping Kriol speaking people to translate God's word. This has been a huge learning experience for us and for them. There has been training for us all as new tasks have been taken on. As a team we have all grown in our relationship with each other and with the Lord. Now the task is almost

finished and we are going through the process of preparing the text for page layout. The translators have had great joy in choosing pictures for the full Bible, the maps, layout, the colour and design of the cover. It has been a long journey and we acknowledge God's faithfulness in everything. He has wanted our obedience and faithfulness, and when he calls he also enables.

We encourage you to listen to God; and when he calls, answer him and he will also lead you on new roads of discovery and ministry to a people who need Christ. Don't trust your own plans for your life: Jesus wants you to step out in faith and let go and trust him. He is so trustworthy! Whatever gifts you have and whatever privileges you have had in training, use them in God's service. Try the door to serving the Lord on the mission field and let the Lord lead you.



Lance and Gwen Tremlett are based in Darwin and are continuing to work with the Kriol Baibul translation team.