

Dear Friends,

Prayer is the spiritual preparation and accompaniment we need for effective ministry. Let me tell you of one way that this is happening.

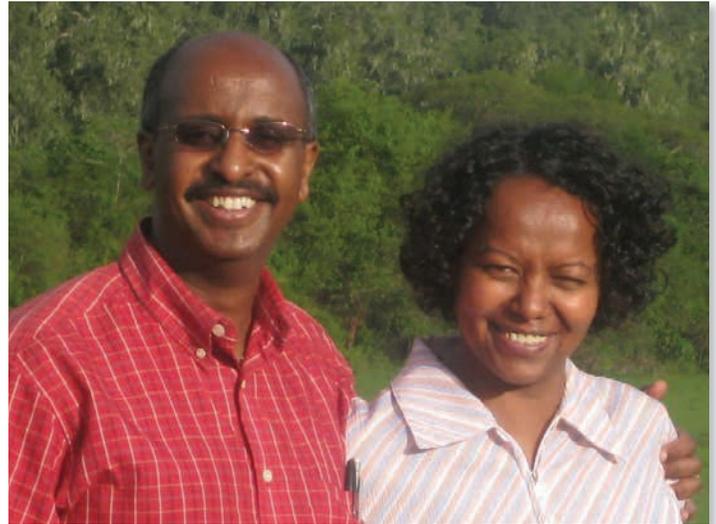
Every month, one of our OC couples involved in research participates in an online “Pray Tank” for information workers. What, you may ask, could that possibly be? It is:

- ❖ An invitation-only prayer meeting that happens over the Internet. They use Skype to speak and hear each other’s voices.
- ❖ Participants are located in different countries. This couple prays in English.
- ❖ They start the meeting with a set agenda (that is, specific issues they perceive information workers around the world face), but then they also note things they believe God tells them in their hearts and/or through each other.
- ❖ Unlike a “Think Tank,” where experts give advice and ideas about specific current problems, this is a virtual gathering to seek input and intervention from the Lord.
- ❖ They start and end promptly – they commit an hour and a half to pray this way every third Wednesday of the month.

One month, the following statement by Chris Maynard was the focus of this Pray Tank:

“Global church information faces formidable obstacles in our day. To outsiders it looks easy. But there are tremendous obstacles of complexity, purpose, analysis, management, funding, cooperation, definition, scale, unity, personnel, skills, and organization. There are major barriers of ignorance.

The body of Christ needs global church information as never before in her history and yet some seem to see it as less useful to her! There is no point in creating information that is never used – however good the information may be. Therefore, among our other challenges, we have to educate the church.



This is Dr. Samuel Kebreab and his wife Yodit. Though I do not know them personally, they live in Ethiopia and he is a regular participator in the Pray Tanks. Samuel is a physician, church planter, and mission researcher. Pray God’s blessings on this couple and their growing family as they hope to adopt two siblings this spring.

This is not something that is likely to be solved by a single inspired individual or even a network of mission agencies or a few denominations. We need the divine work of God to guide us through the maze and to inspire many individuals to work sacrificially yet cooperatively so that the body of Christ may properly see where it is and where God wants it to go.”

To some this idea may seem foolish – stop all else this group is doing to take an hour and a half each month to pray just for missions information workers and their concerns. To them, however, it is the spiritual preparation and accompaniment they need for effective ministry.

May we be challenged by these words in our own spheres of work and ministry! Thank you for your prayers and support, allowing me the privilege of serving our missionaries around the world.

In His grip,

Sylvia Lambert