

Wycliffe Bible Translators, Inc.
P.O. Box 628200
Orlando, FL 32862-8200

Catherine Rountree

Miss Catherine Rountree

I was born in Evergreen, AL. I was the only child of my parents who divorced when I was young. My mother remarried when I was 4 years old. My mother and 2 sisters and their husbands are Christians, but my brother is not. My mother is in a nursing home in Evergreen. One sister lives in Summerdale, AL and the other in Charlotte, TN. I grew up in Evergreen, attended church now and then, but never really understood the Gospel.

When I became an R.N., I found life was not the satisfying thing I expected. After a year of searching, I finally came to the end of myself and gave myself to Him. As I waited for Him to show me what He had for my life, He kept bringing foreign missions to mind. In the following years at Columbia Bible College, He confirmed His direction for me. I graduated in 1966 with a B.A. in Bible and went on to take the linguistic training course of Wycliffe Bible Translators. I joined the mission and went to Jungle Camp in Mexico. There I met Naomi Glock and we decided to work together. We believed the Lord was calling us to work in Suriname and asked to be assigned there. We began work there with the Saramaccan Bushnegros (descendants of escaped slaves) in 1968.

Our goal was to see a church growing and thriving – nourished on spiritual food from the Scriptures, under the management of the Holy Spirit. In order to do that, we worked on linguistics (analyzing the language, in order to establish an alphabet and understand the grammar), literacy (making books to teach people to read, making reading books, teacher's manuals, and training people to teach people to read), translation (translating the New Testament into their language and giving them as much of the Old Testament in some form as we feel the Lord directing). This work is done. The New Testament was dedicated in Nov. 1991. It sold out and has been revised and reprinted. As for the Old Testament, the David Cook Bible in Pictures story series has been published. There is now a growing church among the Saramaccans under the leadership of several entities.

My work has shifted to translation consulting especially training translators. In order to do that more effectively, I am involved in a study program at Fuller Theological Seminary. I am in the process of finishing up a doctoral program, a Ph.D. in intercultural studies (actually translation). My next assignment is a teaching position at the Graduate Institute of Linguistics in Dallas. It is a newly formed Wycliffe school.

Where serving: USA for worldwide influence

Date of present assignment: 1996?

Date of next scheduled furlough: none

Date of COD's beginning support: January 1972

Birthdate: August 19, 1938

Hobbies: Reading, swimming, jigsaw puzzles, drinking coffee, and talking to my friends!

February 2001