



Carolyn & Jack (7 months)

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"LORD, there is no one like you! For you are great, and your name is full of power. Who would not fear you, O King of nations? That title belongs to you alone! Among all the wise people of the earth and in all the kingdoms of the world, there is no one like you." Jeremiah 10:6-7

Thank you for praying for good rains in the Banna area; they harvested 2 crops this year. Donna, Ayke, Getu, and I were delayed 2 days getting into Alduba due to weather and car problems. Still, God enabled us to complete revised drafts of Matthew and 1 Corinthians in the Banna language, so they are now ready for a consultant check. Praise Him!



Getu & Family

Unseasonable rains put in doubt my return flight to Addis Ababa since the small plane can only fly with good visibility. I had been reading Philip Yancey's *Where Is God When It Hurts?* He quotes a prayer by Blaise Pascal:

"I ask you neither for health nor for sickness, for life nor death, but that you may dispose of my health and my sickness, my life and my death, for your glory. ... You alone know what is expedient for me ... Give to me, or take away from me, only conform my will to yours. I know but one thing, Lord, that it is good to follow you, and bad to offend you. ... I know not which is most profitable to me, health or sickness, wealth or poverty, nor anything else in the world. That discernment is beyond the power of men or angels, and is hidden among the secrets of your Providence, which I adore, but do not seek to fathom."

Although I longed to return home as planned, this prayer had struck a strong cord of agreement in my heart. So I committed the timing of my travels to the Lord, knowing He would do what is best from His unerring, eternal perspective. At 6 a.m. on Nov. 25th, we left for the airport in Jinka. It had been raining most of the night, and water was running down the road toward us, a sign that the river we needed to cross had overflowed its banks. We crossed the river without difficulty and arrived in Jinka about 8:30, enveloped in grey fog. I asked the airline agent if there was hope the plane would come. He replied, "Not when it is raining like this!" Twenty minutes later the rain had slowed to a sprinkle and the sky was beginning to clear. Around 10:30, the plane landed. As we boarded I could see the black clouds moving in again. We took off immediately and arrived safely in Addis Ababa early that afternoon. According to my colleagues, the rain continued into December. What a mighty God we serve! ... So do I think God controls the weather? Absolutely. Do I think He arranged that "window" in the rain just for me? Probably not, but the whole experience strengthened my faith and my commitment to trust Him even when *my* plans don't work out.



Ayke & Family

I have been asked to become a translation consultant for SIM. This means I would be checking the work of translation teams in various languages. Since we have arranged for Mary Breeze to check Banna Matthew and 1 Corinthians in March, I plan to join her as an "understudy" in order to prepare for this new responsibility. I am also looking for a consultant training course to attend, but meanwhile Marge Crofts (good friend & SIL consultant) has agreed to tutor me in the principles of consulting. Praise God! Please ask Him to give me understanding so that I can be a help and encouragement to the teams I work with. Hopefully Ayke and I will also receive training in the use of the computer program "Adapt It" that we want to use for the Banna translation.

Thank you for your continued partnership. May 2007 be a year of spiritual growth and fruitful ministry for all of us.

Adoring His Providence,

Carolyn Ford



Donna (left), Trent, Tabby & Jack (colleagues in Alduba)

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