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“And while he was still a long distance away, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him.”
Luke 15:20b NLT

Les and Maxine Williams, a retired SIM couple, have an effective ministry to the homeless in Ethiopia’s capital. They share the Gospel with them, provide them with housing and food, and pay their school fees so they can get enough education to support themselves. Samrawit came to them off the street in August, lived in one of the homes for 2 months, and then ran away. The staff in charge of the home didn't know where to find her in the bad part of town where she'd gone, and Les and Maxine were in the USA for a short visit. Les writes, “We didn't want to lose her - it was clearly the hand of God which had brought her to us in August - so we prayed that God would now bring her back.” By phone Les shared his deep concern for Samrawit and desire that she come back. Beza, who also had been rescued from the street life and who now knows the Lord, found Samrawit and told her, “Dad says, ‘I love you and want you to come back home.’” The following day Samrawit was back “home”. I wonder how many of God’s children are still wandering in the “bad part of town” because we have failed to find them and tell them, “Your Father says, ‘I love you and want you to come back home.’”

Twenty-four believers were baptized recently among the Banna. They dug a water hole in the nearby (dry) riverbed for the baptistry! Praise God that He continues to add people to His Church all over the world.



Donna Clawson, my colleague in Alduba, wrote that the reviewers for the Banna translation had met October 11th. They decided that the Banna word for traditional priests, “gudul”, is a suitable word for the priests in the Bible. Praise God for this. At the course I attended on Relevance Theory last May, we were given statistical evidence that people grow more quickly in their knowledge of Scripture when familiar terms of their own language are used to express key Biblical terms – and that their understanding of the terms improves as they learn more about God’s character. The reviewers continued discussing how to distinguish between “holy” and “righteous” in Banna. Please keep praying for God’s direction for them. These are important concepts for understanding who God is. If we don’t know who He is, it is hard to believe he loves us!

I have confirmed bookings to attend the translation consultant training seminar in Togo, West Africa, in January. Please pray for the obtaining of my visa, and that I will grow spiritually as well as intellectually during the seminar. Pray for confirmation as to whether I should become a translation consultant.

I expect to list the house for sale about December 1st. Meanwhile, my nephew has helped me make a DVD “update” which you can view on my website (www.carolynford.org).

Gripped by the Father’s love,

Carolyn Ford

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