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"A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out, till he leads justice to victory." Matthew 12:20 (NIV)

"O God, we don't understand!" Those words came out of my mouth, but I think they expressed the heart cry of all who were present at the hospital that evening of July 24th.

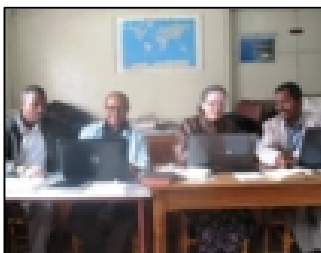
Four days earlier, Abby had invited me to her daughter Y's first birthday party. Older daughter Praise and Abby's 13-year-old sister, who cares for the children while Abby works, are also in the photo above. Before we ate, Abby's other sister Aynalem (right) joined us. At the end of the party I asked for an Amharic Bible. I looked for the passage in Matthew where Jesus blesses the children but couldn't find it, so I read Matthew 12:18-21. I commented how I sometimes feel like that bruised reed or smoldering wick, and how grateful I am that our Lord doesn't break me or snuff me out.



Four days later, Aynalem, who was working in the home of one of our SIM couples, walked a short distance from their house to buy roasted grain. The family had fixed coffee and were surprised when Aynalem didn't return quickly. Finally someone went out to look for her. She was lying by the road, bleeding, having been hit by a truck. She was immediately taken to the emergency room in the hospital across the street from where I live. The SIM wife sent word to me, and I joined them at the hospital. The husband had gone to get Abby, who lives across town. It took 2 hours for him & Abby to reach the hospital. A few minutes after that, Aynalem was taken to surgery. While we waited, Abby told me that the Lord had reminded her the previous night in a dream of the words quoted above. I thought, "Yes! God is going to bring Aynalem through this safely." But Aynalem had lost too much blood, and she passed away that evening. Abby lost her only son 3 years ago; she lost her husband 5 months ago; and now she has lost her sister.

O God, we don't understand! But we know You are good and wise and loving. So we cling to You. We trust You. We praise You for being bigger than we are, and we bow to Your sovereignty. Amen.

Praise God with me:



- For God's provision of Tekalign (at far left in the photo - just call him "Tuck ah".) to join the Kafa translation team;
- For Fekadu's willingness to work with us on checking Kafa Psalms;
- That Matt's course load is more manageable this term;
- For progress on the typesetting and proofreading of the Banna New Testament in Saaba script;
- For daily strength to continue with the work.

I plan to leave Ethiopia Nov. 2nd, move to the SIM retirement village in Sebring, FL, by Nov. 14th, and retire Feb. 1, 2015. I am grateful for your continued support. I expect to work with the Kafa translation team even after retirement and will doubtless return to Ethiopia at least once.

Please pray with me for:

- God's good purpose to be worked out in Abby's added suffering due to the loss of her sister;
- Matt as he studies, cares for his family of six, and works on the Kafa Old Testament;
- Fekadu and Teka as they help us check the five remaining books of the Kafa Old Testament;
- Calm perseverance and efficiency for me to complete the proofreading of the typeset Banna New Testament in Saaba script and the consultant check of the Kafa Old Testament.

Bruised but not broken,

Carolyn

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