

God's Arms Have you ever wondered what GOD feels like...what a hug from Him would be like?



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Diphtheria & Scorpions

Another lady came really ill. She was from the area of the Diphtheria case last week and was showing possible signs of early disease. WE have used TONS of medicine to prophylactically treat this area....I think we caught this lady's illness in time to save her life as well. PRAY as the cost of medicine spent this week has been mind boggling....but we serve

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ARMS OF GOD!

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Have you ever wondered what GOD feels like...what a hug from Him would be like? I don't know about you, but I have truly felt HIM hold me and UPHOLD me physically as well as emotionally and spiritually many times. HE uses people most often to accomplish that, most intimate of His interactions, with us.

I had the joy this week of being HIS arms REPRESENTING your arms. What an amazing blessing it was. My biggest regret in serving our Lord as an overseas missionary is that I can not truly convey to those of you not blessed to actually BE HERE on the field with us the huge role you play here in the lives of SO MANY. You all may not have physically been here in PNG this week...but believe me your presence was FELT! We were GOD's arms HUGGING the many in need of a little love and a little help to ease their misery!

Wednesday at our clinic was like most of the other days...swamped with really sick people. We treated over a hundred each day this week. It was one of those weeks where there was nothing simple...no "just

a great GOD Who has promised to keep providing.

Another man came in with his hand the size of a basketball. He was bitten by a scorpion! The wonderful injectable medicine to start immediately treating his body's reaction to the venom of this insect was available at our clinic, though expensive, because of the many of you that sacrifice and help us keep stocked up on needed supplies not available elsewhere for the general public! BOY was HE HAPPY!! I got a one armed hug! IT was enough!

My arms were GOD's arms this week, as all weeks, as I surrendered my strength to HIM asking His love to RADIATE through me to the many hurting.

Your arms were my arms, as you prayed and sacrificed to send financial support and took time to buy and package and send medical supplies.

I could write pages of case after case of individuals that were just as wonderfully touched by GOD through our love and our arms of hugs this week. (sorry, you will have to wait for the book!) I know it is not easy to give of ourselves and our resources, but what amazing results we are seeing.

sores" or "runny noses". People were just really, overwhelmingly, sick! Some were carried down the mountains on slippery, bush trails. Some walked, very slowly, on their own taking time to rest here and there until they could make it (I am sure I would just have laid down and died on the side of the road...these people are SO STRONG!). All that made it here were treated. It took ALL day, but they waited patiently in hopes of getting help.



Two special patients were carried in...well, OK, they were little ones that could not walk yet...ha! BUT they were both VERY sick.

Tamara was just six months old. Michael, her senior, at 10 months was brought as well. Both were hit hard by a nasty bug attacking many of our children this week. They were raging with fevers of over 104. Their little bodies struggled to breathe as their lungs were so tight and rigid. Diarrhea was just shooting out of their bodies making them dehydrated and weaker. Both had been to our local hospital where they were given an injection a single dose of fever reducer and sent home.

Their little skin was so hot I felt burned when I held them. There is a look of worry that is unique to mothers....both moms eyes just riveted mine...seeking answers ...looking for a ray of hope and encouragement that their babies would be OK. My arms held them, too!!

Can you imagine the VALUE of fever reducing rectal suppositories and the miracle drug of liquid Ibuprofen given both at the same time...along with cool baths, within 15 minutes these two miserable, distressed babies were calm and cool. Nebulized (steam) medicine inhaled into their little lungs, relaxed and opened up the tightened airways....ahhhhh rest at last! The tears in the eyes of those moms....the elation to bring home with them armfuls of supplies and the promise of prayer covering them and their little ones as they went home...BEAR HUGS from GOD HIMSELF!

The next exam, two days later, for review....both babies were feeding well, diarrhea reduced, medicine and oral electrolyte drinks tolerated



STEVEN & LUCY

WE opened our arms and our home to a couple from the **new church at Lusilo** this week. They came full of questions. The wife is one of baby Grace's mom's older sisters. She has been coming to our church since we had Grace in our home. Her husband recently has started to attend. They, as many in that area, have seen much "religion" come and go. Different groups with different doctrinal teachings...but all preaching RELIGION. Join their church group and practice their form of religion and they promise you will get to Heaven. **We preach a different message. COME to CHRIST and receive HIM as a free gift....**THAT alone is the way to GOD. They are seeing that we teach relationship not religion. As we opened God's Word and shared HIS answers to their questions, they were just openly amazed. Pray for Steven and his wife. They are the first to really open up...but I have a feeling many others will follow! We had 70 at church last week....each week

well...breathing easily...IMPROVEMENT! Let me tell you, I got bear hugs back from those moms to be sure!! Tamara's mom was ALSO very sick with pneumonia and she was greatly improved with treatment so GRANDMA came and hugged me as well! The power of medicine, **the power of prayer...the POWER of LOVE!**

The roads have been truly raged by the rain this past week. Land slides have totally covered the road in three places. A huge tree fell



Lori & Aaron

across the road blocking it totally at another spot. The river of water pouring down the mountain has made a stream like trench deep in the center of the road most of the way down as it overflowed the drainage ditches two small to handle the torrential rain. THE worse area...the gooey, clay swamp at the bottom, is so bad that when you even just walk on it, you have a 3 to 4 inch platform added to the bottom of your shoes! We have ordered 20 loads of gravel to cover that clay mess and add traction. We have purchased wheel barrels to be used to move dirt to fill in the worst of the trenches. We will work hard to keep access to those precious ones on the top of the mountain dying, literally, each week in need of salvation.

This week the men told BILL it is too treacherous for us to even walk up...so we will meet in the middle. They will walk down and we will drive as far as we can and walk in the rest of the way. We know that only the really sincerely interested will come down...those on the sidelines looking in will not bother. WE need to get up to top of the mountain again as soon as possible.

*pray for sun on Saturdays and no rain Saturday night

* pray for the gravel ordered to be delivered this week and for GOD to prevent any protest

more and more come as they SEE the difference Christ is making in the lives of those that have opened up to receive HIM. The glowing light is starting to blaze! PRAY.



THEY are Coming BACK!- GBBC starts Jan 28th

We have had the joy of opening our arms and enveloping a new student family this week. The first of many new students we pray that will join us in these next few weeks.

As we get closer to school starting, we have had students start to return. Our campus no longer feels like a ghost town!!

* PRAY for those coming for the first time. For many it is a culture shock to be here...many things different for them to adjust to.

*PRAY for the support needs of the School...we praise the LORD that we are starting out ON BUDGET so far with students bringing their fees with them and some added support gifts as well.

to our fixing the road.

* pray for safety as we drive this dangerous road to and from our church ministries each week.



We are so excited about a very special HUG we feel GOD planning for our entire Bena area churches. Lower Bena Baptist Church, our last church plant now fully nationalized, has been such a blessing to our hearts. We have watched as they have bonded together and sacrificed and raised the funds for the roofing iron they need to build a permanent building. That material is now ON SITE at our Bible College !! They have also sacrificed and raised an additional \$1500 for the cost of the wood, nails, cement, etc. they will need to build the frame to HOLD that roof up. WE have been praying with them about how that dream could become reality and GOD has just really revealed a special plan to us...HIS HUG for these faithful children. We have two special visitors coming to spend the week before EASTER with us. A father is bringing his daughter here to see missions first hand...a dream she has had for a long while. We have known this dear family for years as they are a members of one of our supporting churches. The Dad is a builder! He has agreed to help us orchestrate the simple structures assembly that week...but we need ALL the supplies on site and ready to go! THE church is totally stoked!!! WE are beyond excited, as our plan is to raise the roof and meet INSIDE on EASTER SUNDAY MORNING with all the local Bena Churches invited to share the celebration!! What more glorious way to celebrate the LIVING LORD we worship than seeing HIS MIRACULOUS provision of a church! We have not had a permanent church building constructed in the Bena for over 15 years....what a VICTORY this would be!!

PRAY: we still need \$5000 to get the wood and supplies to get the frame up

PRAY: we will need safety and strength and

*PRAY for safety as our students travel. The rain has made all the roads dangerous, some closed from land slides. Air transport has been hard as well as many of the areas with airstrips are cloudy and socked in and planes can not land or take off.

good weather that week for the construction PRAY: that as the churches and community watch that they will see the POWER of our LIVING GOD demonstrated in an amazing way!

I love hugs....I am a "hug" person. My patients say my hugs are medicinal. My family says my hugs are maternal...and missed! My God says my hugs are ministry ...HIS ministry.

I truly love the fact that Christ touched most of the people He healed and ministered to. He reached OUT and had physical contact with those in need. What a special joy it is to be that hug representing HIM in the lives of the many needy. What a joy it is for us to be HERE representing YOU all that pray and give and sent us! It truly is more blessed to GIVE than RECEIVE and we are the MOST blessed!

No reserves, no retreats, no regrets...just HUGS.

Bill Lori and the boys.

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