

# March Update

*"Cast all your cares on Him, for He cares for you." | Peter 5:7*



This month has been a really dry time in my ministry and has been packed with many challenges that have left me totally spent. During this time of unrest, not many patients have been coming to the hospital and certainly not many M\*slims since they do not feel safe coming to our hospital located in the Christian part of town. Some days are really slow and I wonder what I am going to do today. The therapy department at the hospital has gone through many issues and struggles this month. We have had to make several changes and there has not been good communication between the Nigerian therapists and the missionaries nor the administrative staff and that has caused some tension in our working relationships. I continue to pray for our department and strive to find joy in at least one thing each day.

I had a big joy experience this week when my M\*slim friend came to see me at the hospital. I have not been able to see her for almost three months since the crisis began. We talked about how things were going for her and her family. She is still reading the Bible and we talked about how much we need to pray during this time of unrest. She then asked, "What scripture can I pray?" I was stunned, but obviously overjoyed. I gave her several scripture references that talk about God's protection and deliverance in times of trouble and that He is in control. I hope these scriptures will speak to her heart. I then had to ask myself why I had not been praying these scriptures during this time of unrest. Her desire to know what to pray to God prompted me to search for scripture to help me pray through the struggles I am experiencing.

**Burn Clinic:** The Burn Clinic is going along smoothly. I now have the signboard mounted up over the door. (picture above) I am almost through designing the business card and brochure. I want to put some before and after pictures along with some quotes, so I am waiting for two patients, who have been wearing the burn garments for several months, to come this week. I am now in the process of designing the display board that will hang inside the clinic. It will display the various burn garments for the patients to see and give a brief description of the garments purpose. A friend and I came up with some great ideas for the display board, so I am really going to have fun putting it together. We have had a few new patients come, but it is still really slow right now with tension still high in Jos and elections coming in April. Thank you for all of your continued prayers and support for this ministry.

Deck Parties: We built a deck outside under the trees in our compound. White lights were strung from the tree branches and it is now the happening place for all our get-togethers. We have our compound dinners out on the deck as well as gatherings to greet new people or say good-bye to those who are leaving. This is the perfect time of year as it cools down in the evenings and makes for a pleasant temperature to sit outside, as long as not too many mosquitoes are biting. Ha! When rainy season comes it is a bit risky to plan something outside, but we have been successful many times and other times we just grab our plate and run for cover.

This week we had a dinner on the deck to say good-bye to Heather who has been working here for almost two years. (picture above) Her first year here she was a teacher at the Hillcrest International School and the second year she was working with City Ministries helping to start the primary school in Gyero, one of our care centers for street children and orphans. It was sad to say good-bye and she will really be missed. We pray for a good transition back to the USA and that she will be able to find a good teaching job.

Hanging with the Kids: The SIM office staff had a two day retreat and several of us singles volunteered to watch the children. Working with children can be tiring, but it is never short on entertainment. These kids were the cutest and best behaved and we had a great time together. I was looking after the elementary age children along with two other ladies. All we needed was jump ropes, hula hoops, soccer balls and Frisbees and they were entertained for hours. The playground was a highlight as well. My arms sure were tired after putting them in a swing, pushing the swing, and taking them out of the swing over and over, but their cute smiles spurred me on. It was a good chance to meet the families of our Nigerian staff and get to know them better. You can learn a lot about the parents through their children. (picture above)

### Praise:

- A chance to meet with my M\*slim friend and share some scripture to help her know what to pray during this time of crisis.
- The continued progress in getting the Burn clinic set up.
- God's protection over all of us during this time of unrest.

### Prayer Requests:

- Continue to pray for the salvation of Baba and Mama Y.
- Pray that I will be able to get the needed pictures and quotes to complete the brochure and display board for the Burn Clinic.
- Pray for the Physical Therapy Department at the hospital, as we are having some communication/working relationship issues between the Nigerian staff and the missionaries.
- I will be traveling on holiday for the month of April. Pray for a good time of rest.
- April is election month for President, Governors, and State representatives. Pray for peaceful elections as there are still tensions and ongoing uprisings.

Gay Lynn

