

Howell's e-Mail News

Thursday, June 17, 2004

Dear friends and family,

Many of you have already heard our latest prayer request, but we wanted to be sure to let everyone know the situation.

We want to stress that at this time we do not feel that we are in more physical danger because of this situation.

As of now, we are still going to South Africa tomorrow to pick up my (Rachel) parents, because it seems that the main desire of the government here for now is just that we leave this town while this document is processed. There is a good chance we will have to change our return tickets (next week) to Nampula, as nothing happens fast in Africa.

Life is very different here in many ways, and it is always a challenge to describe a complex situation such as this when so much of the situation is due to some of the ways that life is different than in the States.

Specific prayer requests:

- Pray for encouragement. We really desire to be able to live and work here for a long time, and it is becoming more and more obvious to us that there are many people who don't know God or his peace.
- Pray that our houses will not be vandalized while we are all gone. While violent crime is not usually a problem here, petty theft is, and because news spreads so fast here, we are pretty sure that almost everyone in town will know that all of the Americans have left their houses for awhile.
- Pray for this time of being away. It will be difficult if this time gets drawn out without us having any idea when it will end.

Thanks so much for all your love and prayers. We love and miss you all, and we will email with updates as they come.

Grace and peace,
Rachel and Alan and Abby