



Cute tiny babies of our new friends. The green things wrapped around them are amulets and the black stuff painted on their eyes and faces is to protect them from evil spirits

Dear friends, thank you for praying for me!

There have been a number of hard things happening here these days around us. I feel like we need prayer for protection, and we need the Lord's help to walk with a light heart here and to be full of His hope and peace. I can't share many details but we need his help! My sister and brother and law and I were very encouraged this past week that we need to become like little children in order to receive the kingdom and that in the face of complex and hard things as well as in the darkness around us here, that we can still be full of hope and childlike and joyful because God is our Father. We discovered a joyful little worship song last week that touched our hearts about being childlike in our faith. The artist sings about how it's ok it go to a park and swing on swings and roll down hills and dance for joy because we are children of God. My sister and I were facing some heavy things a few days ago so just for fun we decided to go to a ladies' park and swing on the swings as an act of joy and trust and worship for God who can work in every circumstance.

We were having a sweet time swinging and enjoying Jesus when three very tribal looking ladies from our people group suddenly showed up with their three small babies. They were from a very remote and unreached place and spoke the dialect I am trying to learn these days. They were so excited that my sister and I could speak with them in their language! They were so cute and they laid their adorable swaddled little babies (one baby was just 20 days old :D) on the ground in front of the swing set and jumped on the swings with us. We all swung and chatted and laughed and just had such a sweet time. We eventually got off the swings and all sat on the ground with the little babies. The ladies sent one of their older kids to get us a thermos of tea and cups and snacks from their car where one of their husbands sat waiting for them outside the ladies park and we had a great chat together as we sipped on our tea.

Almost as soon as we all sat on the ground they asked us if we also did our prayers 5 times a day like they are required to do in their faith. We shared that we don't but that we can enjoy praying all the time in the name of Jesus and we can enjoy relationship with God. One lady was very concerned for us that we would never be forgiven or be able to earn our way to heaven because we are not doing the required five times a day prayer. This opened the door wide to share with them the good news that we are forgiven because of what the Son did on the cross! And that he rose again after three days! That he bore our burdens so that we could be totally forgiven and reconciled with God and have the hope of going to heaven and the joy of knowing God now. That salvation is a free gift from Him because of what he did for us! The ladies listened very intently to what we had to say. the conversation then moved on to other things but we can **pray that these words stay planted in their hearts and come to bear fruit in their lives**. It was so sweet that on a hard day the Lord gave us childlike joy on the swings and that he brought these ladies right to us so that the joy he was giving us could spill over on to these precious women from a dark place who have never had a chance to hear anything about him before! Jesus is soooooo good.

Prayer Requests:

1. I submitted an application for a new visa and I am awaiting the result. So did my sister and her husband as well as our sister in Turkey. Its is always exciting to see if the Lord wants us hear another year. **Pray for favour and His peace no matter the outcome.**
2. Some friends are coming on a vision trip here. Pray the lord speak and show them if he wants them to move here. Also pray that the Lord would prepare some special interactions for them with locals where our friends can Shine for Him. **We are really praying for more people to join us here. The harvest is ripe, but the laborers are wayyy to few!**
3. Pray that the Lord would help me walk in **childlike faith, joy and trust in Him.**
4. There have been a number of challenges at the university lately. Yet somehow ,I feel very peaceful and confident that the Lord wants me there. Pray that the Lord would give us **abundant grace to be there** and opportunities to shine for Him.
5. Praise the Lord that he is giving us opportunities to share with people about him these days. Almost all the people we have shared with have never had a chance to hear about him before. **Pray the lord would give them faith to believe and courage to follow him. Pray that the Lord would water all the seeds that have been planted in this land and that he would bring forth a great harvest.**
6. Pray for me as I try to learn another dialect of this language so that I can speak with ladies from other tribes of our people group about Him. **Pray that the Lord open the door to go to some of the areas where these ladies live (humanly speaking a closed door but the lord can do the impossible).**