

# WOMEN IN THE *Field*

NEWS  
LETTER

NOVEMBER 2021

## This Corner Of The Field

from Sandra Turkington  
BARRANCAS, VENEZUELA

A short update on this corner of the field in Venezuela. The work with children continues and grows through others as well.



### PRAYER REQUESTS:

- We continue to have difficulties with the legal paperwork for **the school**. The authorities in charge do not want things to go smoothly or to even go at all! We feel a great need as public schools in town are just giving class one day a week of each grade. We are praying to be able to start this week. \*
- There is a **young sister (26 years old) and her husband** in a nearby assembly who are not able to have children. They have been exercised to receive children and raise them as their own. However, as is usual in the country during these times, they need our support to be able to fulfill this desire (they received twin girls four years ago). In the past two months they have received two newborns into their home.
- Continue to pray for **safety in the home**. This past week we found and successfully terminated a poisonous snake inside the house in the younger boys' room. It has been rare to find snakes in the house, but they must be getting bolder.



### AN UPDATE -

from Lori Parent  
CARAZO, NICARAGUA

I returned to Nicaragua September 19th from my three-month trip to Canada. Since coming back, one of the teens we have been working with professed to be saved. It is wonderful to see her new-found joy in Christ.

My daughter Tamar and her husband Marvin returned October 12th from their year of studies in Honduras. It is good to have them back and involved in the work in Jinotepe.

Now that our two youngest are living in Canada, my heart is divided between staying in Canada to be close to them and to help them while they adjust to adult life and being happy here in Nicaragua where I know the Lord wants us to be. ■

*\*the school is very concerning.... parents plead for help and most 9 year olds don't know how to read because public schools have been sadly crippled by the crises. ■*

GET IN TOUCH WITH US

email: [womeninthefieldinfo@gmail.com](mailto:womeninthefieldinfo@gmail.com)



WOMENINTHEFIELD

**PLEASE PRAY –**  
from from Sylvia Nase,  
TIRANA, ALBANIA

November is the month the Tirana National Book Fair takes place! It is a very large family orientated event that occurs yearly, presenting an unique opportunity to present the gospel, and is visited by thousands of people from both Albania and the neighbouring Balkan countries. We

have endeavoured to be present at this event each year since coming to Albania in 2008 although several years we were prevented from doing so by the organisers. Generally we are the only Evangelical Christian stall present among a plethora of secular and Islamic ones but we see it as a wonderful possibility to share the hope of the Gospel with our fellow citizens. In fact, Enri still meets regularly with a young practising Muslim man he met a couple of years

ago at the book fair to discuss the Bible and faith. As we distribute New Year calendars, pamphlets and other Christian material please pray that many meaningful conversations will take place, that genuine seekers will be contacted and that we will be encouraged and emboldened to stand against the tide and witness for the Saviour. Pray for physical stamina also as it is a long week when you are mostly alone for 12 hours a day. ■



**FOR PRAISE –**  
from Emily McCandless  
MELFORT, SASKATCHEWAN

- Thank you for your prayers regarding a BBQ for the Spanish speaking apiary workers in the region held in August. We had a reasonable turnout, and each person went home with a literature package and a Spanish Bible. It was made possible with the help of a couple of families from the Taylorside assembly.
- Thankfully “R” and I maintain in contact, although so far there has been no further interest in discussing spiritual topics. ■



ISAIAH 55:11 ESV

... My word ...  
*shall accomplish*  
that which  
I purpose, and  
*shall succeed*  
in the thing for  
which I sent it.

**04. DEPENDANCE & PRESENCE**

“YOUR CHILDREN MUST UNDERSTAND that when traveling they *never, ever* leave the road to walk in the bush, even for a bathroom break. *Never* explore on a riverbank or underneath a bridge. *Always* walk on a well-trod path. *Never* leave the path!”

These were the instructions that our missionary colleague, Ruth, forcibly gave Samuel and I just before our family crossed the border from Zambia into the country of Angola where we were moving in April of 2014. Due to a thirty year conflict that ended in 2002, Angola remains one of the most heavily land-mined countries in the world, and this poses a significant safety threat to people living there, especially in rural areas where there was heavy fighting.

Our family has never lived through a war, has never been taken as hostages or robbed at gun-point, has never experienced an evacuation from our home without a moment's notice, and has never worked in an area that is controlled by gangs, rebels, or drug cartels. Many cross-cultural workers and their families have experienced significant threats to their safety and lives and have lived through complex and traumatic events. For most of us serving in the developing world, however, we live with a daily subconscious awareness that we face unique situ-

ations and threats to our safety that we don't experience in our passport countries. For missionary mothers on the field, there is an added stress and strain when we expose our precious children to safety threats, too. In my experience, what I perceived as safety threats through my western lens eventually became a somewhat “normal” part of everyday life overseas.

For us, living overseas as a family meant developing a theology of risk based on God's word and His promises balanced with exercising common sense and the ability to assess the conditions around us. Embarking on a road trip in Angola, we always prayed, claiming God's help and presence. We knew very well the risks involved on treacherous roads where a breakdown or accident can mean disaster with no phone service, no clean water, no fuel, no mechanical help, no emergency medical services, and, possibly, no person in reach for miles. We prayed

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in dependance on God, and our family knows we came through situations where God averted danger or sent help when we needed it. At the same time, it was second-nature to load up our Land Cruiser with jerry cans of fuel and clean water, first aid supplies, tools, truck parts, spare tires, a charged satellite phone, and notarized copies of our passports. Our total dependance on God did not

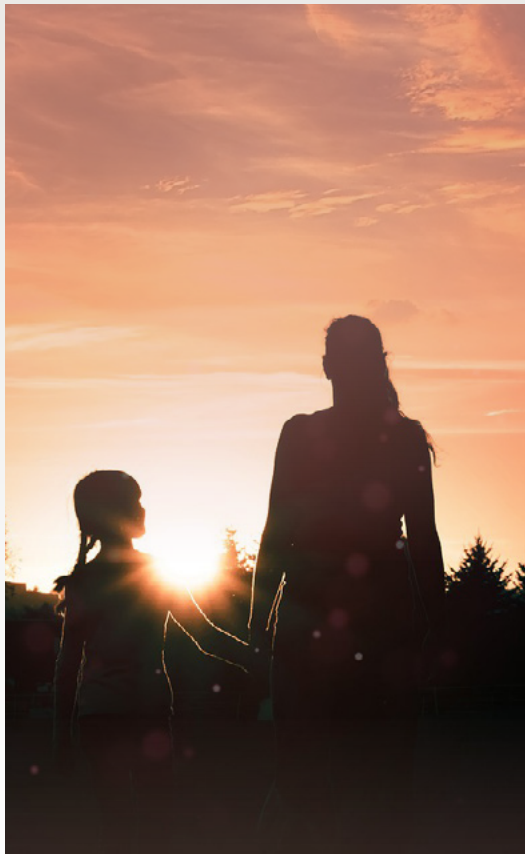
negate our responsibility to act with wisdom when it came to the safety of ourselves and our children.

In our first years in Angola, one of our younger boys asked me, “Mommy, if there is a war in Angola again, will we leave or will we stay?” That's a serious and thoughtful question for a young boy to consider and reflects that our children were conscious of issues around security, too.

Perhaps the most significant concern I had as a missionary mother was the safety of our daughter. I once spoke with an experienced missionary from Thailand who told me, “You are concerned for the safety of your daughter in Angola. If you were a missionary in south-east Asia, you would be concerned for the safety of your sons.” In a culture where there are few physical boundaries and little respect for another's body, we learned that our daughter was not safe, even around other girls, many of whom have experienced sexual violation or abuse.

Numerous times at police stops along the road, the officer would look past us at our daughter in the back of the vehicle and ask if he could take her and marry her. It was said with a degree of jest, but the truth is that girls and women in Angola are not safe, and these encounters represented a threat to our daughter's safety. Our daughter hated going to the city market where it wasn't unusual for men to make comments and stare at her with interest. She rarely went with me, but when she did, we stuck close together and I taught her to walk confidently beside me and not let them see her discomfort. In the months before we left Angola, a policeman, who was a

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MATTHEW 28:20 ESV

...behold,  
I am with you  
always,  
to the end of  
the age.

scoundrel, came to see us about a health issue. He had been posted to Biula where he had taken a teen-aged girl as a wife in addition to the ones he already had in the city. When he saw our daughter he had the nerve to ask if he could take her to live with him. I ordered him off our property and told him to never show his face to us again.

As a mother reflecting on my experiences and circumstances overseas, two themes stand out to me: dependance and presence. Overseas I was “forced” into minute-by-minute dependance on God in ways I had never experienced in Canada. I depended on Him for courage, common-sense, and clarity in our circumstances. I learned through

experience the need to bring every concern and question to Him, including the ones around our family’s safety and security. Presence was the other gift God gave me – *His* presence. Jesus promised His disciples, “**Behold, I am with you always**” (MATTHEW 28:20), and that promise extends to me. In Angola as a missionary mother with legitimate concerns and burdens, God reassured me again and again with promises and demonstrations of His presence. Now in Canada where life is not truly safe and secure either, I challenge myself to remain dependant on Him and find my security in the promise that He is with me always. ■

***Missionary mothers around the world need your faithful prayer support. Reach out to a missionary mother today and let her know that you are praying for her. Pray for mothers who live in countries where there are everyday concerns and stresses around the safety and security of their families. These stresses can be extremely draining over time, and missionary mothers need your prayers.***



Click [HERE](#) to watch the May 17 session recording – if you missed it or want to see it again!

**Watch for news!** Stay updated on our Instagram page, <https://www.instagram.com/womeninthefield/> and through this monthly newsletter! We’ll let you know what is coming up and when, so you can save the date, and watch your email for newsletters like this one!

**Give...** If you would like to financially support these women or others on the field, you can do so securely through the following websites:

[WWW.MSCCANADA.ORG](http://WWW.MSCCANADA.ORG)

[WWW.GOSPELTRUST.CA](http://WWW.GOSPELTRUST.CA)

PROVERBS 29:25 ESV

... Whoever  
trusts in the  
LORD is safe.

