



Dr. Anne Livingston

UNIT 1079—NTBF, 3170 Airmans Drive, Ft. Pierce, FL 34946
fannelivingston@gmail.com; alivingston@baptistworldmission.org
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“Therefore thou shalt speak all these words unto them; but they will not hearken to thee: thou shalt also call unto them; but they will not answer thee.” (Jeremiah 7:27)

Dear Praying Friends:

July 2017

I have been working through Jeremiah and Ezekiel again. These are sad books for me, because I know how things will turn out for Judah. The people will refuse to listen to God’s message through Jeremiah and will go to death, destruction and deportation. The exiles will doubt Ezekiel, even though so much of what he predicts is coming to pass. We are just as hard of hearing today.

We have had many patients recently, and almost everyone needs at least one return visit. We try to instruct our patients on how to care for themselves, whether the problem is short-term or chronic. They might hear, but that does not mean they are listening or will do what is suggested. People such as:

- The older woman who decided not to take her medications with her on a church missions trip. I had to tell her that her blood pressure did not stay home, and it was now 186/110. Yes, she needs to take those pills every day.
- The man with diabetes who was sure he could wait a month for his return visit, even though I was concerned about a rising blood sugar and a possible infection. Ten days later, his brother brought him in totally unresponsive with a blood sugar off the meter. God made it possible to get him relatively stable before sending him to a hospital equipped to care for his needs. He had a rough ten days, but finally recovered enough that he did not need to be in the hospital. He was sent home, and I am now adjusting his medications. He is much more willing to listen!
- The older man who came with congestive heart failure after at least fifty years of drinking and smoking. In his case, his heart has probably been damaged by those years of alcohol consumption. He thinks that now he can leave it alone, and stand up to his friends’ influence in his own strength. He also thinks he does not need God.

Most of our long-term patients are great about taking their medications. They have learned that they feel better when their problems are adequately controlled. And there are new patients who pay attention, such as the man who came with heart failure. He and his son listened to the instructions, asked good questions, and then heard of the need both of them have for a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. We hope they will respond in faith.

Praise My neighbor and fellow missionary is now using the patient pavilion for a children’s Bible club on Tuesday mornings, the clinic’s day off. They have a covered space, and the kids can make lots of noise!

We are clearing the clinic property of brush and weeds. The men will get rid of the worthless saplings (especially the ones that are all thorns!), and pick up the rocks and pieces of cement that are scattered on the ground.

Projects Getting all those rocks picked up will make it possible to use a lawnmower. I hope to make that purchase later this summer. Eventually, we will probably need to buy a riding mower.

I have a long project list for the clinic vacation, which will be the last half of July. Maybe I can get half of it done!

Prayer Please pray for strength for all the clinic workers. The hot weather started in May, which is early, and we are learning how it affects the Ministry Residence. July and August are usually very hot, and that can make it difficult to work through the afternoons. I need wisdom as I work in the heat and try to hear each patient’s symptoms, ask the right questions, and then make the diagnosis and prescribe the medications and treatments.

The government raised the fuel prices more than 20%, and the prices for everything promptly went up. I need wisdom to balance clinic prices and cover pharmacy expenses and salaries for workers while continuing to do projects on the property.

“As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live...” (Ezekiel 33:11) God has faithfully given us His Word, but so often we do not listen or think our way is better. Lord, give us ears to hear, hearts to obey, and feet to walk in Your way.

In our Lord’s service,

Dr. Anne

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.” (Ephesians 2:8)
Baptist World Mission, PO Box 2149, Decatur AL 35602-2149; www.baptistworldmission.org