

## March 2012

*Each month for the past few months, we have been running articles from Pastor Ben about a day in the life of our mission in Ghana. Unfortunately, the following story is also a day in the life of Ghana, where roaming bands of thieves prey on the citizens. You will remember that in the past, Pastor Ben and Julie were also victims of a break in and were shot by attackers. We asked Pastor Ben to write about the incident so you, our members, would hear firsthand what happened and not be subject to rumors or lack of knowledge. Please keep Ben and his family in your prayers and write him to let them know you are doing so.*

## Isabella Saved!

Dear Friends,

I am taking a break in the 'Day in the Life' series to tell you about my daughter, Isabella and the tragedy she just survived. She is the second of our four children. Our first child, Bill, now a man of 28 years of age, has finished a course in computer networking but has not yet landed a job. Isabella will turn 27 years old in August of this year. Ida Kate, who was born while we were in Liberia, is now 21 years old, and in her third year of college. Benjamin, the youngest, is 18 years old and has just entered his first year in college.

Isabella started work as a teacher in 2009 after earning her teaching diploma in basic education. Her first job was in a town about 47 miles from our hometown of Saltpond. Last year Isabella moved to a town about 8 miles from the mission village of Akrampa to be near the school where she was taking an advanced long distance degree program. This second move took her about 59 miles away from our home.

On January 14, 2012, tragedy struck our family, and our beautiful daughter Isabella. At 4:15am, we woke to a neighbor banging on our door. Our cell phones were off, the batteries were being charged. When Isabella couldn't reach us, she called the neighbors to get us. The news was bad. Isabella's apartment had been broken into by armed robbers, and she had been attacked! They took all of her money and a lot of her belongings. We rushed to her town to get our daughter. Isabella was very hysterical and severely traumatized. She had suffered beatings and gunshot wounds at the hands of her attackers.

We rushed Isabella to the Saltpond hospital because we have friends there. It is a true miracle that she is alive today. She had been shot in her leg. She could have easily been killed by her attackers. But the Lord Jesus protected her life. Since that day, Isabella has been at home with us and receiving treatment. Her employers have been gracious enough to allow her to stay at home and recover. We have repaired the broken door of her apartment, but have not yet cleaned up the mess. Isabella will return to work mid-February, but will not be staying in the same place. We will clean out her apartment and move her somewhere else when she returns to work.

I know that the church has prayed for us, and continues to support us in prayer, and for that we are very grateful.

Blessings,     *Pastor Ben*