



We had a good holiday season with Travis's parents and my sister. The time flew by quickly, but we enjoyed visiting our niece's village, a village closer to where we live, and showing them around Quebo.



While our family was here we took the opportunity to invite neighbors and people who helped build our home over for dinner. We had quite a few people and enjoyed our meal together on the porch.

We're enjoying being in our new home! Even though it's not completely finished, it's nice having more space and no mold. We're also in the woods so it's more peaceful. Our well is sometimes a community hangout as people wait to fill buckets, and it's a good way to meet the neighbors. Kids also come over every day. We had to set boundaries because at first they came over in big groups and were there all day every day. A couple evenings each week I (Sarah) teach English, and I will also start teaching a culture class for fourth graders at Fredy and Raquel's school. It will be an opportunity to teach Bible stories. Recently Agnes, her brother, his girlfriend, and I did a program for kids in Travis's and my neighborhood. We told Bible stories, learned a Bible verse, and played games. It was a big hit!



I (Travis) have been spending most of my time finishing up some detail stuff on our house and starting a demonstration garden behind our house. I am thankful that work on the house has slowed so I can focus more on the kind of work I enjoy. If you have access to water, October through February are good growing months here in Guinea Bissau because the heavy rains have stopped and the temperatures are cooler than other times in the year. It would have been great to start back in October but we were too busy trying to get the house finished. With the help of some of the neighbor kids I was able to set up a drip irrigation system and get a variety of things planted. Lots of people have stopped by to check how it works. I have learned a great deal about the needs of people here through conversations about gardening. People here are good at growing things but lack dependable access to resources such as seeds and fertilizer when needed. It is pretty easy to find those things in the city and since we come and get supplies pretty much every month we plan to start picking up bulk quantities of fertilizer and seeds to sell to the people in Quebo. That should help meet a need and give us more opportunities to build relationships with the people we are serving.



Another need is access to water in the dry season. We hope to be able to start clearing and fencing off the larger piece of land that Hope Remembered owns soon. In the future we would like to be able to get a deep well dug there that wouldn't run out of water in the dry season. This would help us to provide garden plots with access to water for people who want to grow vegetables throughout the year to support their families. It has been frustrating at times how slow things move here but we are excited to see everything that God has done so far and for the direction he is leading us in the future.

Praises:

- We are thankful that Sarah's ears are healed.
- It was a blessing to have family here.
- We are moved into our new home.
- We are building more relationships with neighbors learning more about their needs.

Prayer Requests:

- That God would give us wisdom and guidance so that we can confidently make decisions about next steps
- That I (Sarah) would be able to rest in God and not worry so much about trying to please others. I find myself often worrying about meeting real or imagined expectations of Guineans, Americans, and myself. It is exhausting.
- For health and energy to carry out the work that God has called us here to do
- That we would be able to build deeper friendships with the local people

GUINEA BISSAU

the forgotten country

876,000

total unreachable population



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In order to be awarded the Platinum logo, Hope Remembered had to fill out every required field of our nonprofit profile on www.guidestar.org for that level of participation.

You can give with confidence knowing Hope Remembered is committed to the highest standard of transparency and accountability.

If you feel led to partner financially with Hope Remembered and the work God is doing in Guinea Bissau, please click the donate button below to donate one time or monthly.

Donate

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<http://hoperemembered.org/>