



*Dear Friends,*

June 2004

"There is nothing static about Him or His cause; to stand still is to fall behind Him."<sup>1</sup> So comments F.F. Bruce in his discussion of Hebrews 13:13, "Therefore, let us go out to Him outside the camp, bearing His reproach." Originally written to encourage Jewish believers to leave cultic Judaism and follow the Messiah Jesus, this verse makes me take seriously my commitment today to this same Messiah.

I have been out of nursing school and working at Good Samaritan Hospital for almost two years. Alongside the night shift in Labor and Delivery, I am finishing a one-year Graduate Studies Diploma from Western Seminary. Needless to say, I live a dichotomized life- New Testament Greek and newborn resuscitation, Bibleworks and biohazard bags, Corinthians and contractions. All of it I love.

My plan for next year, however, is different! I continue to feel a (divinely placed, I think) geographically centrifugal force, sending me out, somewhere...

So... I'm planning to join several other nurses and work in a clinic in a rural area of Ethiopia with the mission organization SIM (Serving in Missions), beginning in September 2004 for a year. The SIM mission station provides health services, veterinary services, and water maintenance to the Oromo ethnic group, the only service of its kind to 40,000 people covering 400 square miles. This is a Muslim group with only a small representation of believers in Jesus. The clinic, while offering health services, serves primarily as a bridge connecting the Oromo people with the gospel by partnering with local Christians.

Will you pray for me? I rely heavily on and am very thankful for a strong prayer support base here, without which I know I could not go. Also, if you are interested, you can financially support me while I am in Ethiopia. My monthly expenses will be about \$1,300 (See enclosed card for specific instructions or visit [www.sim.org](http://www.sim.org)<sup>2</sup> to give online). Working with a small team of nurses in a Muslim tribe is overwhelming at times and prayer is much coveted. I start to get scared some days as I ask myself, how can I leave my family and everything I know?

But I am not leaving everything I know. As I finish my paper on Hebrews 13 for seminary, I make myself very familiar with these words of life that I will take with me. This Bible, and This God and Savior, these I know, these will always sustain. And should I stay comfortable if so many do not know these glorious agents of spiritual life and heavenly truth?

Thank you for your prayers,

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<sup>1</sup> F.F. Bruce, The Epistle to the Hebrews. Grand Rapids: W.B. Eerdmans, 1990. pg. 382. Capitalization of pronouns with divine antecedents added.

<sup>2</sup> [sim.org](http://sim.org) → get involved now → give online → sim usa, enter my name, project number 20472, select "support"