



# One Another



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Ministries International

*Dorcas L. Harbin*

Dear family and friends,

Year End 2011

Thank you for the many Christmas cards, calls, and greetings. You have all made it special. I've had time to reflect on the value of the season, as well as rediscover the value of family. I loved being with them for the holidays and I regard that time as my most valuable gift received. I am grateful Emmanuel allows us to experience deeply the love of family, friends, and ministry personnel around the world. What a gift!

On a recent flight, a young toddler was sitting in the row in front of me. He was so quiet, pleasant and well behaved, that I commented to the parents "He's an incredible little traveler." They said "Well, this is his 22<sup>nd</sup> flight in his 24 months of life. He's getting used to it." (Aren't military babies amazing?) Later that day the thought came to me that *Jesus was an international traveler at a young age, too*. In addition to Him being a missionary (*sent from God*), He also traveled to Egypt and back, and did quite a bit of traveling at a young age.

That thought is a comfort to me right now. As we relocate our base of operation from Montpellier, France to Cannock, England, it is important for me to remember He truly understands the challenges, problems, loss, and sometimes pain associated with an international move. He knows about the challenge of leaving one country to another for the sake of ministry. He truly can identify with each aspect of this move.



In my last report, I shared several items of need and prayer requests. Please read the following brief time line of *what has happened in the past seven weeks*. You will see why *your prayers have been so important* to me, and why *I desire them to continue*: Note the *REQUESTS* and *STATUS*:

- 1) Nov 10th I asked you to pray we would receive our sponsorship number in order for us to apply for our British visa. [November 18th, those were granted, allowing us to begin the application process.](#)
- 2) November 19th I applied for my visa, and was given an appointment in Paris to submit my documents on December 6th. [That appointment went well and my waiting process for approval began.](#)
- 3) December 2nd, the moving truck came for the removal of my household and personal things, along with all of our ministry items (office furniture, books, materials, files, etc) They drove away that evening, expecting to arrive in the UK sometime on December 4th. [However, Monday - December 5th, a friend brought us the local newspaper to show us the article and picture of the moving truck's accident and the report of damage to the contents. \( A photo of the moving truck is attached separately.\) This was a shock! \(I learned later the truck did not make it to the U.K. for several more days following the repair since it broke down in northern France. The contents had to be removed again to other vehicles.\) At this writing, the contents have been moved 3 times and are in storage near Cannock. I will not know the extent of the damage until I am physically there to access it. Please pray God will give me wisdom, provide for what needs to be replaced, and release what cannot be replaced. Pray for the interactions and communication with the removal and insurance companies. Pray God will help us find favor and bless as only He can.](#)
- 4) December 6th the documents were officially submitted to the British Embassy and December 19th, my visa was granted and received. [This is a tremendous answer to prayer! Thank God with us that our team can begin the new year with visas in hand.\\* \(\\* This will now allow me to enter the country and begin house](#)

*hunting in earnest.*) Continue to pray God will provide the right house at the right price, with the right space in the right location, and in His right timing. I'm praying it will be comfortable, cozy, and a place of refuge for me.

5) The Lugar's move went well and received the keys to their house on December 15th. [Their trucks arrived December 18th, and they are busy settling in now.](#) Pray for all the details of unpacking, getting settled, and also becoming comfortable in their neighborhood and community.



These events have provided high levels of stress, expense, and energy. That is why it is comforting to know Jesus can identify with these times. It also allows us to better identify with and care for missionaries who experience similar challenges of an international move. We praise God for providing us with a new facility that enables us to care for His servants completely -- all services under one roof. Of course these blessings come with normal hiccups and some difficulties along the way, so please intercede for our transition and adjustment.

As soon as I have a new address and phone, I will get that information to you. In the meantime, please join me in praying for the following:

- Travels. Pray for my trip from the US to Montpellier (flight), and my travels from Montpellier to England (driving). Pray my car will function well, for safety with weather conditions, for a good crossing of the Channel, and for good health, strength, rest and refreshment throughout the journey.
- Pray I will be keenly aware of, and enjoy, God's presence in each situation.
- Pray against discouragement, deception, and distractions -- all tools of the enemy of our souls.
- Pray for my adjustment to a new home, country, and culture. Ask God for new friends and opportunities to share Him among those I meet.
- Pray for the present lack in monthly support -- that God will provide new partners in ministry. Praise and prayer for special one time gifts which help sustain effectiveness.

*My prayer:* I pray God will find me authentic, creative, a servant, faithful and growing in grace this new year. The two words that keep coming to focus are "refresh" and "refuge." May we all find in Him alone our refuge and refreshment. Thank you for your love, care, and partnership in the Gospel.

Together to make Him known,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dorcas L. Harbin".

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