

NEW CREATION MINISTRIES



DEAR PRAYING FRIENDS –

Thanks for your sustaining prayers over the last six weeks. Without writing a full-blown letter, I thought I'd write a shorter update to let you know how we're doing and how my recovery has been progressing after my accident in early May.

After the bicycle accident on May 8, in which I fractured my clavicle and shattered my scapula, I travelled with a kind missionary friend to Kijabe, Kenya, for assessment by an American orthopedic surgeon. He looked at the scans and x-rays and sent me back to Rwanda, recommending immobilization for six weeks. After one week, I went to a hospital in Kigali for a new x-ray. When he saw the image, the surgeon in Kenya noted that the clavicle had become severely angulated (called it a "floating shoulder"), impeding healing and delaying therapy. So, having returned to Kenya again, on May 28, the doctor in Kijabe surgically plated the clavicle, fastening it to the bone with eight screws.

Surgery in Kenya was a very positive experience, though the road to the hospital is enough to break bones! I was accompanied by another kind missionary friend from Kigali who helped with logistical needs along the way. Though Kijabe Hospital has many orthopedic surgeons, I was treated next door at the children's hospital (called the CURE Hospital), where the treating surgeon from Texas serves. It was an interesting experience to be the oldest among the patients – and the only one who didn't whine and cry. (The gowns were a bit short, though – would've been quite a show if they didn't let me wear my pants underneath!) Because it is a church-based hospital, multiple staff members came around throughout the visit to pray, including the anesthesiologist (which was a true comfort, as anesthesia was probably the most unsettling part of having surgery in rural Africa).

After returning to Rwanda, I began physical therapy the following week. Since then, I have been meeting with the therapist (a highly trained South African named Anita, incidentally married to the only neurosurgeon in Rwanda) three times per week. Though recovery will take a long time, she often remarks on how quickly I am regaining movement. Being a Christian herself, she says it is because of the "anointing," knowing that there are many people who are praying.

Our family is doing well. We were really shaken up by this whole ordeal. But, we seem to be in a peaceful stage now that the crisis has ended. Jessica has been an endless servant. And, our kids have been very patient, waiting for dad to heal before the normal wrestle-mania resumes. Personally, I've learned/relearned many things over the last six weeks, especially the importance of our local community (both missionary and Rwandese). Barely a day has passed when we haven't had a visitor. People have been very generous with time, thoughts, food, prayers and love.

Though I still need to maintain administrative responsibilities, I'm trying to rest as much as possible until my six-week (post-operation) check up in early July.

Pictures below: Left – Day of accident in Kigali (May 8); Center – X-ray of plate and screws (May 28); Right – Five weeks after accident with a really fine looking scar.



Again, we appreciate your prayers. We'll get back to our normal monthly prayer updates at the beginning of July.

Serving Together and Grateful for Your Prayers,

Tim (for the five of us)

**Tim & Jessica
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