



Julie's Heart Cry

Bringing Hope to Women Globally

May 2020
Newsletter

A mother's unspeakable pain

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; He rescues those whose spirits are crushed." Psalm 34-18

Dear Partners & Friends,

Since we recently celebrated Mother's Day, I want to share the story of a special mother I met in Central African Republic. I chose her because of the grace of God in her life after she experienced unthinkable tragedy.

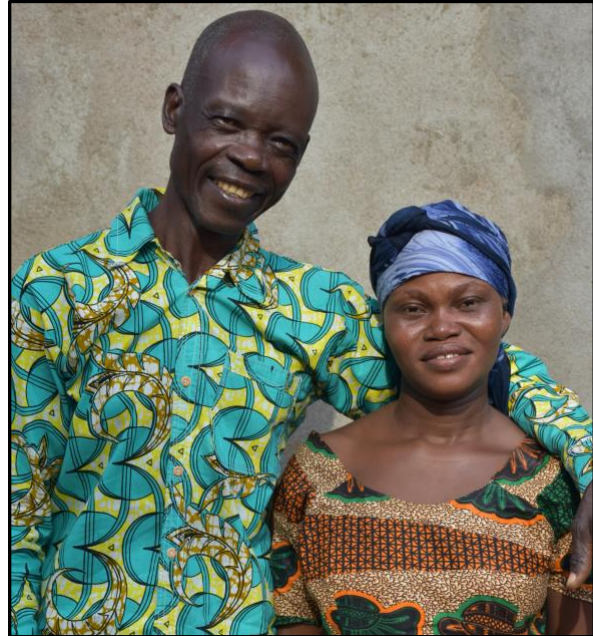
Honorine, her husband, John, and their six children had hidden from rebels three times in the span of a month. The rebels were on a rampage, kidnapping women and children, burning villages and towns, and basically terrorizing everyone they encountered.

Struggling to provide

The family was growing weary of having their life disrupted, and Honorine and John were concerned about the horrors their children were witnessing. They had seen people murdered and homes burned to the ground. The war had hindered social and economic activities, and medical care was practically nonexistent.

Honorine and John struggled to provide for their family in all the upheaval.

To make matters worse, it was the height of the rainy season, which meant malaria cases were on the rise — especially among



Honorine and her husband, John, experienced a parent's worst nightmare — but they never lost their faith in God.

children. (According to UNICEF, malaria kills one child every 30 seconds). Honorine and John's 2-year-old son was running a high fever, so they took him to the small clinic in their village.

After doing blood work, it was determined he had malaria. Since the war had cut off the transport of goods, including the clinic's meager medical supplies, the critical anti-malarial medication was unavailable. So, they

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did what they could to keep the child's high temperature down with a rag and cool water.

As a cultural practice, neighbors pay visits as they wait for the fever to subside. Little did they know that Honorine and John's son would succumb to malaria that evening. The visits from friends quickly turned into a time of mourning.

Unimaginable pain

Honorine's 6-month-old baby girl was asleep in their bedroom, so she would slip away occasionally to check on her. When she went to the bedroom later that evening, she was horrified to discover her little girl had also passed away.

This precious mother went from the reality of helplessness in hiding to grieving the deaths of two babies. No earthly explanation can satisfy the magnitude of such pain.

As this couple told me their story, it was evident that they not only understood the sovereignty of God, but they also bowed willingly to the will of God for their lives. They knew that taking shelter in His will was their only refuge.

Honorine's trust in the Lord carried her



Despite her anguished past, Honorine is hopeful as she starts a new chapter in her life.

through the death of her children. She never lost her faith in God. He was, and is, her only hope.

A fresh start

Since the death of their children, John and Honorine are now safe in a new community as they start a new life. They will also be recipients of a Home of New Beginnings, provided through Julie's Heart Cry once it's completed. Honorine, as a testament to God's love and graciousness, is now expecting a baby in the near future.

Pray for Honorine

The lack of reliable postnatal care in developing countries makes pregnancies risky. Please join me in praying for Honorine to have a safe delivery of her newborn!

Julie Mad-Bondo

**Will
you
pray?**

Please pray for a much-needed, stick-shift truck for Julie's Heart Cry ministry in Central African Republic.