



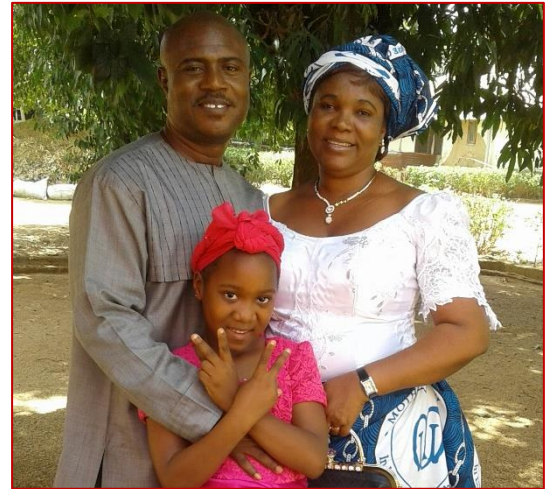
October 2017

Dear Friends,

I am very sorry that I have not written to you since I returned to Nigeria after my visit to the UK in the summer. I returned to Nigeria to a rough start. I really want to thank you for your friendship and kindness and the gracious hosting I received throughout my visit. Florence and Delight send their sincere gratitude. EMA was a huge blessing and encouragement to me.

Towards the last week of my visit in the UK, Florence and some of our neighbours attended one of the Seminary staff's installation as chairman of their church DCC (more like a bishop). The journey there was very rough and tough. Florence phoned me afterwards to say that she was in pain and very distressed. However, she was more concerned about the neighbour who had driven them, who was older than her. Sadly, the man's blood pressure shot up in the night and he had a stroke and passed away on the following morning, at hospital. The stress of the journey and the shock of our neighbour's death impacted on Florence's blood pressure, making it rise up. When I returned to Abuja she was being treated for high blood pressure and was in and out of hospital for three weeks as the doctors tried out various drugs. Unfortunately, our car had broken down when I was on my way to the airport en route to England and I was unable to get it fixed until now. It has really been a very challenging time and God has been most gracious! Florence is now more stable and is keeping to her medications.

Delight is enjoying her new class (Pry. 3) and has made a few new friends. Her passion for reading has greatly improved as she has read twelve of the fifteen books that I got for her on my UK visit. For her 7th birthday, Delight baked her first cake, with the assistance of Florence. You can imagine her excitement: "I baked my cake!" What joy!!



Delight making her birthday cake

COLLEGE NEWS

Abuja Bible College resumed for the 2017/2018 academic year on 11 September 2017 and we have 12 determined, good students. We continue to rejoice in the variety in terms of age, experiences and church denomination and have one lady to soften the 'hard' all-men composition of the class! They seem to be enjoying the course so far; we will bring you further news on their development in subsequent updates.

We are trying to get a replacement car since our car broke down – we have not been able to succeed in repairing it despite many failed efforts by mechanics and auto-electricians. Being without a car for these months has been very distressful, especially in the light of the security situation in our region.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

We had a successful Board meeting on 7 September. It was well-attended and very good deliberations and decisions were

made, including the confirmation of Paul Udoh as a teaching assistant. He is taking on more teaching this term than he had previously. Another of the important decisions was the suggestion to expand the number of Board members in order to increase its effectiveness and impact. There were suggestion of names of possible additional people.



A cross section of the current ABC students,

Nigeria celebrated her 57th anniversary of independence on 1 October. Despite security tensions and threats it was calm, hitch-free and an understandably low-key day.

PRAISE ITEMS

1. Praise God for the steady progress in Florence's health condition.
2. For Delight's new age (7 years) and pray that she continues to grow in loving Jesus, in wisdom and knowledge.
3. For the ABC students that resumed for the 2017/2018 session.
4. For a successful Board of Trustees meeting.
5. For the relative calm we experience in our region – Southern Kaduna.
6. For Paul, our second teaching staff, and pray that he would be a very valuable addition to our team.

PRAYER ITEMS

1. For Florence's health to continue to stabilise and for continued strength for us all at ABC.
2. For continued protection over the college and our region of Southern Kaduna.
3. For renewal for staff and students at ABC as we daily encounter God's word.
4. That we are able to get another car very soon.

Thank you for your sharing with us in ABC, in the equipping of people in bible teaching roles. We are assured that the LORD will not forget your labours of love.

With you in Christ's love and service,

Ezechi, Florence and Delight

Please contact your local Crosslinks office to change your contact details

Crosslinks, 251 Lewisham Way, London SE4 1XF Tel: 020 8691 6111 pletters@crosslinks.org
Crosslinks, 32 Montgomery Road, Belfast, Co. Antrim BT6 9HL Northern Ireland Tel: +44 (0) 28 9079 6028