

# The Telmans

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Answering God's call to  
Uganda, East Africa



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Happy New Year from Uganda! Last week, I (Michelle) was thinking about the past year, and was reminded of some of the difficult times we went through. We are in the midst of another trial as my brother had a brain bleed the day after Christmas, and has been in a coma. It's been difficult to not be there. What better time than in the midst of a trial to reflect on God's goodness! I decided to share with you some of the ways God showed Himself faithful to us last year.

1. My Aunt Mary was sick with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). We had a full schedule of travel for deputation. She passed away on her husband's birthday, right before one of our rare weeks off. We were able to be at her funeral and spend time with family.
2. The buyers of our camper & vehicles all came to us. We sold them all without ever having to advertise.
3. So many times, our financial needs were met at just the right time.
4. Emily needed an apartment when we moved. A good friend wanted a roommate as she was going to be moving about that same time to an apartment closer to Emily's work that is in a safe & reasonably priced neighborhood.
5. A sweet family at our church "adopted" Emily when we left.
6. Tyra Murphy was led by God to go to Africa with us for six months. We did not know at that time that it would take that long to get the house finished and settled, or how much we would need her throughout multiple bouts of malaria.
7. Our long flight to Uganda was scheduled well for our family, with both flights being at night which helped us get some sleep, and a long layover in London, allowing us to get a hotel for the day & have some leisure time & rest.
8. When John was so sick with malaria, God guided us to get treatment the day before it would have likely been tragic. The doctor told us that his levels were past what can be fatal, but the parasites were young. They would have matured by the next day, and we probably would have lost him.

9. The first hospital that we took John & JT to wanted to give them quinine, a medicine we had been strongly warned about. This was among several reasons we did not want to be at that hospital, and we were feeling like we had some major decisions to make with no good choices. We prayed, and God gave us a way out. A doctor in Kampala told us the boys could make the trip there, where they received much better care.

10. Emily was in a couple accidents that could have been much worse. God only knows how many other times He spared her (and us) from something that we didn't know about.

11. We were able to borrow a van from missionary friends on furlough to allow us to get settled and take time to find the right van.

12. My brother, Steve, should have gone home to bed because he had to drive truck early the next morning. For some reason, he stopped at a store first where they know him. While he was there, he had a brain bleed and collapsed. Since he lives alone, he probably wouldn't have survived if he had gone home. He is starting to come out of his coma. We would appreciate your prayers on his behalf.

These are just some of the things I can recall God did for us to show His love & faithfulness, even in some of our darkest times. We all go through difficult times. Reflecting on God's goodness can provide great encouragement as we face these trials. I wanted to share my reflections with you in case it can provide encouragement to you if you're facing a trial.

I also wanted to share this list with you to remind you of how important it is to pray. Obviously, missionaries need your prayers as we face different kinds of trials. However, we all face trials. Not only is it important to pray for your missionaries, but for your pastors and all those God has brought into your life. It is because of answered prayers that we have this list to share with you and that we had the strength to endure the trials we faced. We would like to thank you for praying for us last year, and to ask and encourage you to continue throughout this new year.

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