



Jason & Emily Atkins

Ministering in Guinea-Bissau

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English with Emily *by Emily* (featuring Emily...)

The English teachers had five weeks off from classes for the rainy season which consisted of two weeks of vacation, two weeks of work, and one week of intense Emily time! The first week in September I stepped back into the classroom with the nine Guinean English teachers as my students. We talked about English stuff: tons of new ideas for teaching grammar and vocabulary; teacher stuff: classroom management principles, organizational ideas; and life stuff: how to be a life long learner, and how to have the heart of an evangelist.

It was a great week even though my tonsils blew up like balloons by the end of it (20 hours of teaching after not teaching for a year will do that to you!). We're planning a few Saturday morning "continuing education sessions" throughout the semester and I'm already looking forward to the first one!

When It Rains, It Pours *by Emily*

It's the rainy season here in Guinea-Bissau which means that it's been raining between two and 24 hours a day, everyday, for the past few months. I love the fact that during this time everything is green and growing. I also love all of the additional vegetables that are available at the market – especially cucumbers! I don't really love all of the mud and the laundry taking forever to get dry, but hey, what's life without a little variety?

The hardest thing about the rainy season is that everyone is sick. It's like winter in the US – colds, the flu, even malaria have been going around like crazy. For the past six weeks either Jason or I have been sick – fevers, bronchitis, tonsillitis, intestinal parasites, skin infections, you name it – and well, we're feeling a little sick of it! We've been praying a lot lately that God would show us how to be healthier in the midst of germs, how to take care of ourselves better, and how to be content when we are confined to our bed even though there are a million things waiting to be done. All good lessons, and I'm trying to learn them well so that I can get back to life and ministry as usual.

Jason & Emily



Emily with a few of our English teachers

The Highlights of this Past Month

- Jason got sick
- Emily got sick
- A team of music teachers from Central America arrived at the guest house
- Jason got sick again
- Emily got sick again
- Emily's teacher training week started
- Jason and Wade left for Senegal
- One morning without Jason and the Youth Center's computer network crashed
- Teammates Wade and Katie's house flooded
- Emily locked herself out of the room and had to cut her way back in
- Jason and Wade returned from Senegal
- Emily got sick again
- Everyone got better and lived happily ever after...

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Jason & Emily Atkins

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