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Jason, Emily & Savannah Atkins

Afraid of Heights? by Jason

The solar project continues to march forward. We've begun the work of pulling the various steel assemblies up to their second story home, fitting them together, and welding them in place. The electronics are now completely ready to accept power from the panels. When they are installed we will be close to generating our first useful bit of power! I expect it will be another month or so before we are completely finished with all five of the steel supports (each of which will hold 12 panels) and up to the full capacity required to run the whole school. In the next few weeks, if all goes well, we should have the first bank of 12 panels up and have power during the day on weekends – yay!

As the project (hopefully) starts wrapping up by the end of 2011, I'm reminded of how much time, energy, and money has been poured into it. Thank you to everyone who's contributed directly to the project and to us being here. I have high hopes for what the system can do for the youth center and what God can use the youth center to do in Guinea-Bissau! Please continue to pray with us for safety as we work, protection from thieves, and good sunny days for our panels!



Moving the first giant panel mount into place.



Jason and Jeremias planning the best way to attach the panel mount to the spine



Panel mount attached



Nothing like welding in the hot African sun @

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Our Little Missionary by Emily

It's hard to believe that a year ago we were packing up a shipping container and getting ready to celebrate our first Christmas with our little girl. As I looked ahead to 2011 I never imagined how different our work and family

would be with the addition of Savannah, and I'm so glad that it is. In the past we've had a hard time balancing opportunities – always saying yes to too many things and not being able to do as many of them as well as we've wanted. This year we had a tiny yet insistent little reminder to set priorities and make sure we made time for our family. In the end I'm amazed at how many things we were able to really do well when we narrowed our focus a little bit.

Even though she hasn't been preaching or teaching yet, Savannah has opened many doors for ministry for me ②. With her curious eyes and generous smiles, Savannah has a way of making everyone feel comfortable and ready to chat. Taking her for walks outside, or going to sit with our neighbors while she plays with other little kids, has given me a natural way to spend time building relationships. I pray that God continues to use me and Savannah to share His love and joy with the people around us.



Hanging out with her girl Maranata



Savannah loves playing with kids.



Chatting with our neighbors



Sitting on the lap of a missionary from Brazil during morning staff meeting

Five Years by Emily

This past August marked five years that we've been serving with YFC – can you believe it! When we came over here in 2006 to spend eight months in Africa I never thought I'd still be here five years later ③. I'm so glad that God's plans are so much bigger than ours and that He has given us the opportunity and ability to be involved in something bigger than ourselves.

Over this past year we've seen God's provision in so many ways. We are so grateful for everyone who has prayed for us and our ministry and supported us financially. Each month God has called new people to send in special gifts or to join our monthly support team. God has provided for our needs. We're still not funded to 100% of our budget, and would love to be able to finish some of the projects God's given us. Please continue to pray with us for the people God will bring alongside us to complete this challenge! If you would like to partner with us financially you can send a check in with the form on the bottom of the front page or you can give online at www.yfc.net/give/atkinsjasonemily

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