



— FOR UNTO US A —
Child is Born
The Mighty God
EVERLASTING FATHER
Prince of Peace
ISAIAH 9:6

The Atkins Family

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New Students *by Jason*

Our move to Canchungo has allowed me to take on a new role, as a part-time teacher in the welding school. The students arrived last month, and have begun classes with the welding instructor, Cirilo (sih-reel-oh). I have the students each Wednesday morning, and we have used that time to introduce them to some new, more mechanized metalworking tools. Below is a picture of them watching our computerized plasma cutting table at work. It was fun watching the smiles on their faces as they saw something they previously wouldn't have imagined possible.

The plasma table has been a long project, interrupted because of our move and then several issues related to a lack of sufficient electricity. However, I'm happy to report that although we are still making improvements to it, it is now working correctly! We'll use it to help make a lot of the things the shop will produce, and are also now talking it up around the shops in Guinea-Bissau (it's the only one of its kind in the country) to try to find some paying work for it as well so that we can help move the shop project toward self-sustainability.

Desks for the Islands *by Emily*

While Jason's been moving the shop, teaching metal fabricating classes at the vocational school in Canchungo, and working on several clean water projects; his intern, Widafa, has been making desks for a school on a remote island. (See the picture below of the metal desk frame, painted with orange primer. Once it gets a coat of paint they'll put wood on the desk top, bench seat and back.)

All of the schools here use the same kind of desks - benches with attached tables - but they are often unstable and uncomfortable. Jason updated the design a bit to make the desks stronger and easier on the students'

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The welding students checking out the plasma table in action



The sign for the new shop designed by Jason and cut out with the plasma table



The primed metal frame of a desk for an island school

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wrists. There aren't many public schools on the 40 or so islands off the coast of Guinea-Bissau, so many of the kids attending the elementary schools started by the church there are the first in their families to read and write. We pray the desks will be used by the school to demonstrate God's love to the island kids in a practical way for many years to come.

Thank You *by Emily*

Just when I got used to typing "2014" the year is drawing to an end! Looking back over these past 12 months we are filled with gratitude. In 2014 we celebrated 10 years of marriage and 8 years in Guinea-Bissau, and then we left the noise and bustle of the capital city and moved out to the village.

Even though our life looks a lot different now than it did a year ago, some things have remained constant. No matter where God has led us, He has never left us, and He continues to bless us over and over through you. We were overwhelmed by your love and concern when the kids were so sick with malaria in June and chicken-pox in November. Thank you for your prayers for our family.

We've also been blessed by so many of you who have made sacrifices in your finances to support the work God has been doing over here this past year. Thank you. Thank you for giving so generously. Thank you for partnering with us in ministry. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to live and work in Guinea-Bissau!

House Guests *by Emily*

When we came out to Canchungo we moved into a house that is normally used by an American couple who travel back and forth. (They're usually here about four months of the year.) That couple, Chris and Holly Collins, arrived back here in mid-November and graciously agreed to let us stay here with them during their month-long stay.

Chris is the executive director of WAVS, the vocational school here in Canchungo where Jason's shop is. It has been so good to have some other Americans to work with and bounce ideas off of. We even roasted chickens, made mashed potatoes, and celebrated Thanksgiving in true American fashion.

Jason + Emily



The old shop in Bissau is cleared out and ready to be turned into classrooms



Jason's new shop at the WAVS vocational school in Canchungo



Holly and Chris, our housemates this month



Story time with Miss Holly



Savannah and her friends love to look at books



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