

Sent via email on
December 14, 2013

Hi,

"When is Robert scheduled to arrive home?", my friend Jo An asked.

"Friday at 4:30pm, and that's during the winter storm warning that has been issued", I sighed. Thursday night before I went to bed I checked Robert's flights one last time. "Oh no", I groaned to myself, "His London-to-Dallas flight has been canceled and I have no way of knowing whether he'll get another flight. He's flying right now and won't arrive in London until 3am. I might as well go to bed."

I tossed and turned a lot that night, but around 5am I awoke suddenly. "The power is off and it is getting very cold in here." Then I remembered, "Robert doesn't have a flight from London-to-Dallas and with the power off, I can't check the Internet". The UPS was beeping and I lay there wishing that annoying sound would stop. Suddenly, I realized, "Maybe I can still check the Internet". I got up and went to my computer and fortunately, the laptop and the wireless were still working. As I was fiddling around trying to get the American Airlines website to come up, the phone rang. I answered.

Robert's voice came through loud and clear, "Honey, I'm booked on AA flight #79 and I should be arriving in Dallas around 6:15pm."

"Okay, honey. We are in the middle of an ice storm. The power is off and it's really cold in here. I won't be at the airport to get you, but Troy has volunteered to pick you up", I replied. Then the phone went dead. I logged on to the American Airlines website and got the gate information. Just then the UPS died.

I went back to bed and tried to keep warm, wishing for a cup of coffee. I thought, "I know we have a kerosene heater somewhere, but I don't know if we have any kero. Even if we did, would I still be able to light it." I remembered that for Y2K, we had bought some little emergency propane stove burners, but who knows where they are by now. Then I thought about the fireplace, "But the wood is outside and I would get even colder if I went out to get it. Besides I wouldn't want to use my inside pots for heating water in the fireplace anyway and I have no idea where the camping equipment is in our cluttered garage".

Finally, I got up and dressed in several layers to keep warm. Suddenly the power came on and I was very relieved, "Oh good. This isn't going to be a long affair with no power". Then I thought, "I should boil the water and grind the coffee beans immediately". The minute I finished, the power went off again. "Whew, the Lord is really looking out for me in the midst of this anxiety". I wrapped myself in several blankets, sat by the window, read my Bible and sipped my hot coffee.

Several hours later, the power came back on and stayed on. I was able to do some work around the house, but I had my eye on the clock and at intervals I checked the flight status of AA #79. I breathed a sigh of relief at 6:10 pm when it finally landed. Normally, it takes about two hours

to pick up luggage, go through customs and immigration and drive from the airport to our house. This time Robert waited for more than an hour just for his luggage because all the baggage carts were iced over. It took Troy hours to get to Terminal D because buses were stalled on the exit ramps due to the ice and he had to figure out back roads through parking lots to get to where Robert was waiting. It was after 9pm, when I finally got the call from Robert that they were on Hwy 360 heading south at 10mph. It still took several hours before they made it to our house. So many of the roads were just too slick to navigate up the inclines. It was 11:10 pm when Robert finally walked through the door after being gone a month.

You may ask, "Was it worth it?" And I have to admit there were times that day, I would have said, "No. It's not worth all this anxiety." But when we consider that another people group will soon have the [JESUS](#) film in their own language because we were willing to sacrifice a month of our time, then we can joyfully say, "It was worth it all".

What happens next? In a few weeks, the [JESUS film production crew](#) will travel to the same place, and using the oral script that Robert and the team created, they will choose around 20 voice actors and record the audio track professionally. Back in the studio in Orlando, Florida, a digital video master is produced. Then the JESUS film is ready for distribution: DVD, reel-to-reel, online.

Thank you for your part in praying for us and sponsoring us financially, so that we are able to do our part in bringing God's word to people who don't have it. We appreciate you so much. We also wish you a Blessed Christmas and a Wonderfully Fulfilling New Year.

Love from both of us,

Robert & Verna Stutzman
419 McKinley Street
Cedar Hill, TX 75104
Robert_stutzman@sil.org

FOR FINANCIAL GIFTS-Canada
[Wycliffe Bible Translators](#)
4316-10th Street NE
Calgary, AB T2E 9Z9 Canada
Phone: 1-800-463-1143

FOR FINANCIAL GIFTS-USA
[Wycliffe Bible Translators](#)
PO Box 628200
Orlando, FL 32862-8200 USA
Phone: 1-800-992-5433 ext. 3809

