



Ethiopia's State of Emergency

Dear Friends,

I pray that you are well. We, my husband, Sefew and I, along with our 8 beautiful children, have been in the US for eighteen months now. Amy Minard, Grace Center's on-site director continues to do an amazing job in carrying and also expanding the life saving mission of Grace Center. Although my husband and I greatly miss Ethiopia, we have been blessed during this time to continue sharing the work God is doing at Grace Center with those we meet in the US.

Ethiopia is in extreme need of prayer at this time. So many of you are faithful prayer warriors. Please pray for peace and protection. The government of Ethiopia has officially declared "A State of Emergency". In Ethiopia's

State of emergency there is no National Guard. There is no relief or assistance for the people like when the US has a state of emergency. There is only Grace Center. Grace Center continues to serve regardless of conflict.

As Ethiopia officially declares a state of emergency, I return to the thoughts of these women and children when they first arrive at Grace Center, in their own state of emergency like many of us in other parts of the world could never imagine. One of the mothers that I often think about is Aster.



Scan QR code to see the amazing video about the triplets or go to <https://youtu.be/FiG0vueMsYE>

Aster walked for 20 miles and arrived broken and malnourished. In her arms she carried a malnourished 8-month-old baby weighing 8 pounds, on her back she carried another malnourished baby weighing 11 pounds. She even had her 8-year-old daughter, Tenaye, with another baby tied to her back, weighing a mere 7.5 lbs.

Aster wasn't concerned about her own frail state when she arrived at Grace Center; she was only concerned for her triplets, two of which were very close to death. They received immediate medical attention.

Aster had planned on abandoning two of the most malnourished triplets and going back to her village with the healthiest one. She thought this was the only way her children would survive.

Aster was happy to learn that we would help her to be able to continue to raise her children. Tenaye began going to school. All three of the babies made a miraculous recovery.





It was not long before they were healthy and well. Aster started working as a nanny at Grace Center and was able to provide for her children. The children started off in our medical clinic and then were able to join the day care. Years passed and they even started kindergarten.

Then Aster came to us at Grace Center and said, "Thanks to you and God, my children are not only alive but doing better than I could have imagined. I have been able to work and provide for my children and have even been able to save money. Now I can return to my village, build a house, continue sending my children to school and even start a business."

Aster is one of the most grateful people I have ever met. She always had a way of seeing God in other people. She became an inspiration and leader for many mothers. We were sad to say goodbye and yet so very proud of what Aster had accomplished but more importantly what God had accomplished through Aster.

It was only recently that I learned that when she first came to Grace Center, she called her family back in the village and said, "Don't worry about me. I have found the closest thing to heaven on earth."

Aster even said this when her children were so sick, we thought they might die.

This is the heart of what Grace Center does. We serve each person on a case-by-case basis. No one story or person is the same as the next. We are so blessed to see so many miracles.

Grace Center has been able to facilitate surgeries and medical care for women and children, near death. We have continued to see Ethiopian families adopting children in need of families. We are also seeing such amazing and positive results from the foster homes that are now serving four to five children per household. So much is happening but this would have never happened without you.

We need you again this Christmas, to spread Christ to the far reaches of the earth. We need to raise \$64,500 this Christmas season. We appreciate any gift that is given from the heart. Thank you so much. God bless you and Merry Christmas!

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