

# HOWE THINGS ARE...

Hello All! Apparently Brazil is not as culturally different from North Carolina as Uganda. Or, possibly, the reverse culture shock deal is a one-time thing. Precious little readjustment this time.

I had two tasks upon returning to the US: find a new church and replace my car. I completely understand that for the majority of people on the planet, neither task is all that anxiety-ridden. As it turns out, I have huge issues with cars. I hate them. I wish to live somewhere where I don't need one.

It's not a rational fear. Worst case scenario doesn't involve death or homelessness. And yet, years are taken off my life as I pretend that I'm not worried (pretending because good Christians are anxious for nothing and furthermore, normal people don't experience utter terror associated with

buying and selling vehicles).

**Stuff you could pray about:**

- **Praise God** for the provision of a car. Plus, funds are left so I can think about another short term trip to boot. ☺
- On April 2, my team will be testing our "what if a plane crashed into this building" backup plan as our power system is reworked. The power outage gives us a chance to run the scenario and see how well/if the plan works: someone can get email back on line if we lost both equipment and the people who know how to run the equipment. **Pray** for coordination/wisdom.

I decided there must be more than the car issue. The fear is: buying a car means depleting savings. And the horrible realization dawns that all this time savings has been my backup plan in case God doesn't come through. Not that saving is intrinsically wrong. The problem is: if I can only trust God with a backup

plan in place, I don't trust God.

So, great, have the realization and decide getting rid of savings is a good thing (removing the backup so I full out have to trust God). And, I plan to buy a manual transmission car. Guess why?

Because I can't drive stick. So the adventure is two-fold: trust God for real plus learn to drive stick.

I'm actually looking forward to the plan. And I tell God, if it turns out the car costs less than the planned amount, I'll still lose the amount. Give it away, whatever.

*"You, LORD, give true peace to those who depend on you, because they trust you"*

*Psalms 26:3 (NCV)*

And then, someone offers to give me a car.

A normal person might think, "what a burden lifted". Here's the ram in the thicket. As I'm on the brink of sacrificing Isaac/the savings account, God provides. Not me. Every single aspect of acquiring and selling vehicles: major stress.

I desire that I would learn from this experience or any of the 42 hundred other experiences on the same lesson\*.

Meanwhile, I'm not looking for a new church. The church story doesn't involve serious concerns about my mental health so, loses much of the drama of the car story.

Trust all is well with you!

*Sheryl*

\* the lesson (for those not keeping up): God is in control.



Home Office/ Financial Contributions:  
*(Enclose a note stating:  
For Sheryl Howe)*

How to contact me:  
Sheryl Howe  
6106 Webster Way #A  
Waxhaw, NC 28173  
704-243-0208  
sahowe@wbt.org

**Wycliffe Bible Translators**  
PO Box 628200  
Orlando, FL 32862  
1-800-WYCLIFFE  
(800-992-5433)  
www.wycliffe.org