## HOWE THINGS ARE...

November 2007

Hi! How are things with you?

I know --- it's like I'm writing a monthly newsletter. Guess why? I have this self-imposed goal of writing four Wycliffe newsletters per year. I wrote one in March and then, while I was writing stuff about Africa, no Wycliffe newsletters until September when I realized in order to get three more in, I need one a month for Sept, Oct, and Nov (because December's out --- I could write a Wycliffe newsletter and call it a Christmas letter but that's practically like cheating). Besides I always have stuff to say...

A couple weekends ago, I drove to Tennessee to visit family (my aunt, uncle, and grandmother live there and my parents drove up from Mobile). Tennessee is close because remember how East coast states are kind of small and all close together. I left after work on Friday (I did just take two months leave this summer so I really shouldn't take any vacation I don't absolutely have to) so I'm driving up in the dark. It's in the mountains: curvy roads, not a ton of traffic. For the last part of my trip I'd been behind the same car, just us two cars. As we're approaching civilization, they turn on their police lights. It's the kind where the lights are inside the back window so I would've never known it was a police officer unless they turned on those lights. The car didn't speed up or anything. Just flashed the lights and then a minute or two later flashed the lights again.

When I got to my aunt and uncle's house, I'm telling them this (mainly because I'm mildly concerned that there's some action you're supposed to take if a police officer in front of you flashes their lights but also because they made a comment about driving through the mountains in the dark, like possibly it's not safe...). I tell the story. My aunt comments that it could've been an angel and I, being how I am, immediately dismiss the angel explanation because it wasn't like I needed the police officer. Like if my car broke down and along came a police officer to rescue me: Angel, sure. But in my story, I totally got through the mountains fine.

Then I rethought the angel (God involvement) option. I was relieved when I realized it was a police officer. Even if I don't need them, I like that they were there. And there doesn't seem to be a logical reason why they alerted me with the lights that they were a police officer. And it was quick, the light flashing. If they just did it once, I might not have thought anything about it --- but twice, it registered that it was a police officer and that they'd been in front of me the whole way. As it turns out, God doesn't restrict himself to acting supernaturally only in situations requiring supernatural involvement. I really like him a lot. Like I imagine God saying\*, "Hmm, Sheryl could

use a reminder that I'm totally providing for her and also some peace of mind. I'll just stick a police car there and let her know".

## Stuff you could pray about:

- Praise God for how easy it is to see He's in control lately --- how I'm kind of just along for the ride (in a good way)
- Pray for relationships at work, for wisdom for me. Recently I was at a forum thing and someone asked Bob Creson, the president of Wycliffe, how we could pray for him. Bob mentioned some specific things and then said, "and pray that I don't get in the way of what God's doing". I'm so stealing that prayer request for me. Pray I don't get in the way and, since it was his idea, you could pray that for Bob too. You have treated me well, O LORD... Ps 119:65

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<sup>\*</sup> Don't worry; not advocating a theological position; just what I imagine...