



African Outreach Ministries

The Board of Directors of African Outreach Ministries wants to insure that the friends, family and supporters of Scott and Lisa Harris are aware of an unfortunate event which happened last Thursday, March 17, 2016 to Scott, Lisa and their daughter Mariah in their home in Inhambane and to ask for your continued prayers and support for them and the ministry in Mozambique. They were at home about 8:00 PM in the evening when three masked men stealthfully approached the house undetected and forced their way inside before anyone realized what was going on. They were able to overpower Scott, tie them all up and separate Scott from Lisa and Mariah.

While there were a lot of scary details we could share, the very short version of story was that Scott was able to free himself from his restraints and able to get out of the house, then ran to get help from neighbors a few hundred yards away. The thieves were unnerved when they realized Scott got away and fled. Scott estimated that the thieves were able to get away with about \$10,000 worth of their possessions (approx. \$1000 in cash, laptops/cell phones/other electronics as well as most of Lisa's jewelry, including her wedding ring) but things certainly could have been a lot worse.

All three (Scott, Lisa and Mariah) have rope burns from being tied up and various minor bumps and bruises, Scott has a large bruise on his right cheek, sore ribs/upper body as a result of the resistance he put up. Lisa has two black eyes that look terrible and has symptoms of a minor concussion. They had planned to travel to South Africa this week anyway to pick up their son, Jayden, who is arriving for his spring holiday from school and to get regular supplies. Once in South Africa, they were both examined by Doctors which included X-rays and CAT scans for Scott. While the physical injuries should heal relatively quickly, we pray the emotional scars will not have long term negative effects on any of them.

Scott and Lisa believe this was yet another episode in the spiritual warfare going on in the area and was a direct attack on the work and ministry they are doing in the area. They also indicated to us that they felt this was an isolated, unprecedented incident and do not feel that their mission in Mozambique has changed in any way. Scott kept a teaching appointment that he had on Saturday then also preached on Sunday. They are continuing undeterred in service to our Lord. They said they have never felt threatened in the past but are realizing they may have been a bit naive and are considering things they should do to increase their personal security.

In particular, Scott mentioned that they have always planned to build a wall around their property, which is commonly done in that part of the world, but they have put it off due to cost. He plans to plant bougainvillea around the wall, which grows very quickly in Mozambique, looks nice and has very thorny branches which would serve to prevent people from climbing the walls. In addition, he is planning to get two German Sheppard dogs, motion sensor lights and already hired a night watchman. Scott indicated the construction of the wall should cost about \$9000 based on current costs and exchange rates.



The AOM Board of Directors, as well as other friends and family, believe that building this protective wall around their compound to increase their personal security is a critical step that they must take as soon as possible and have asked them to begin making preparations accordingly. We appreciate everyone's faithful support for the **ministry** over the years as we have watched dramatic spiritual growth and the start of a dynamic Christian discipleship movement take place in Mozambique as a direct result of the work of Scott and Lisa, who are following the footsteps of Allen and Janelle Avery before them in other parts of Southern **Africa**.

To complete this project, cover medical expenses and to help replace some of the necessary supplies that were taken from Harris family, it will take additional funding over and above the money currently available and we would ask that you prayerfully consider a special gift at this time to help out.

We are aware that various individuals and groups, such as Scott's home church in Grand Junction, Colorado, have been touched by these events and have offered to help collect money for this purpose, for which we are extremely grateful. You can also contribute directly to AOM through our normal channels, if that is easier to administer, by donating via our website at:

<http://africanoutreachministries.org/donate.html>

Alternatively, you can send a check to our (new) mailing address at:

African Outreach Ministries
9119 Hwy 6 Suite 230 #134
Missouri City, TX 77459

We appreciate all of the prayers, personal support, love and compassion many of you have already shown to Scott and Lisa over the last few very difficult days.

God bless you!

African Outreach Ministries Board of Directors