

## Boldness

When you see her on camera, the word “boldness” might not be the first word that comes to mind. Adilia, the young Ditseä woman who traveled with and sometimes interpreted for us, will strike you as very shy. But then, on one of our hikes through the Costa Rican jungle, we encountered one of the local shamans (or, witchdoctors).

We had asked Josiah and Cynthia Hubbard (missionaries) about the spiritual warfare associated with their work on the Cabecar reservation. “We haven’t experienced many direct



You will meet Adilia in the upcoming documentary.

spiritual attacks,” replied Josiah, “but it just seems like a lot of things go wrong.” Cynthia agreed, adding that “Frequently we are delayed or detoured because something we need for a trip or a project will break or stop working.” Also, they (and many other outsiders) have experienced a sensation of heaviness or feelings of futility that tempt one to give up; to go do something else – somewhere else.

### Things break.

I am not prone to look for a demon behind every bush. I know that a lot of things break simply because we live in a fallen world that groans for its freedom from corruption (Rom. 8:19-22). But sometimes there is something spiritual going on behind the scenes; some activity by the malevolent forces of “this present evil age” that work in opposition to us.

Before Costa Rica, we had done 5 major missionary documentaries and many other smaller ministry videos. We have filmed in some challenging environments. Never had we broken anything.

In Costa Rica we broke **three** pieces of gear. One of those had a very negative impact on my ability to check focus and exposure while filming outdoors on very bright days. Was something going on in the spiritual realm?

Many Ditseä people would immediately answer “Yes!” In their belief system, there are any number of spiritual forces or gods that might cause problems if not properly pacified.

### And then, of course, there are the witchdoctors.

In Ditsei (the Ditseä language) these shamans are called *hawa* (phoentic spelling). They practice healing. But they also practice cursing and threaten real harm, so the Ditseä people are afraid of them. Mostly. Which brings us back to Adilia.

Adilia is one example of the relational discipleship that the Hubbards do. After she showed signs of real promise and a desire to be a blessing to her people, the Hubbards invited her into their home. She has lived with them and watched their lives and learned from their example for the past two years. She has grown stronger in her faith.

In fact, Adilia is the one who boldly interviewed the witchdoctor we encountered on that jungle hike. She asked him very direct questions about his practice of shamanism that, according to Josiah, he didn’t really want to talk about. She mentioned his deceased father who was also a witchdoctor. This, too, made him very uncomfortable. (The Ditseä never speak about the dead for fear of hauntings.)

One of the definitions of the Greek word for “boldness” focuses upon “free and open speech.” Because of her faith in Christ – and the life-changing discipleship of the Hubbards – Adilia has true **boldness**. She knows that the witchdoctor is only a man and that the powers behind him are no match for the risen Lord Jesus Christ!

She is, for me, an example of faith. So are the Hubbards and others who live in the mountains of Costa Rica. “He who is in you is greater…” Right?! (Sí. ¡Es cierto!)

You will meet them all (the witchdoctor too) in late May or early June when we finish editing the full documentary. **Thank you for your prayers!**

Click the link below to watch our  
2 minute March Update:

[Jim & Lynn In Costa  
Rica](#)