

Greetings from Papua New Guinea~

These past few weeks have given our family so much to Praise the Lord for! His loving kindness and His protective hand through our lives in the two specific situations shared below (a car/cyclist accident and medicine overdose) have made us realize afresh the value of a second, a minute and the sobering reality that life is precious! Praise Him with us as we continue to return thanksgiving and praises back to Him each and every time we think again of what could have been. (If you want the details continue to read below the general update: **Sore Cyclist** and **Medicine Mishap**)

Upcoming Scripture Translation Evaluation...

This coming week our team will be undergoing a Scripture Translation Evaluation of most all of the portions of Scripture that have been translated thus far! Each verse undergoes an intense scrutinizing process that can take anywhere from 15-20 steps (or more) for each verse, to ensure its clarity of the Message before it is ready to print! Dan will be having approximately 700 + verses that will be evaluated for their content, clarity and comprehension. Levi will be having his required, 2 post-literacy stories, Joshua chapters 2 & 6 and portions of Mark chapters 1-4 evaluated also. We have been blessed to have all 3 of the men on our team willing and able to be a part of this tedious process. It will be exciting to be able to hand over some Scripture booklets into the hands of our believers in the coming months, Lord willing! PLEASE PRAY FOR THIS ENTIRE PROCESS as many hours, strength and clear minds are needed to complete this step throughout this next week ahead! We are so thankful for our Translation Consultant Team who sacrifice their time away from their own ministries and families to be able to assist the entire field of Church Planting efforts to see God's Word become a written reality among each one!

His Mighty Works...

We are also rejoicing for the growth that is becoming more evident in the lives of the believers that God has given us the incredible privilege to live among and minister to. Just last month, our co-worker Dan began to teach through the book of Acts with the new believer's on Sunday mornings (being a review for the other believers also) and began teaching into Romans during the Tuesday evening Believer's meetings. This is an incredible and exciting time for us as so many foundational and security-of-the-believer truths are wrapped up in the book of Romans. We are anticipating with great faith the LORD to do mighty works in the hearts and minds of these brother's and sister's in Christ! It is indescribable really when I think of it to be able to put into words the joy that comes from our spirit within when we hear testimonies of the working of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God in their individual lives!



Our co-worker, Rachel, shared with us, that our prayers for so many of the wives of our believer's to begin coming to hear this truth for themselves is being answered, as 6 wives came to the last believer's meeting, 4 of whom are not believers and 1 that has been coming to the chronological Bible teaching and really seems to be soaking up the truth but has not made any clear profession as of yet! Dan is being sure to lay out foundational scriptural truths of the Gospel and many of the husbands are being more and more bold to openly share their former ways of thinking and now the Truth that they have placed their faith in and are pointing everyone to the finished work of Christ on the cross on our behalves! Praise the Lord!

Our three translation helpers approached our co-worker Dan a week or so ago to share with him that they had been talking together about their habit of gambling at the local market and shared that they are feeling that this is not pleasing or honoring to God to continue in this practice. They are seeking to be accountable to one another, us and the Lord to help them leave this stronghold in their lives! PRAY WITH THEM! PRAY FOR THEM!! God can break down any stronghold no matter how deep or long it has had its grips on our lives!

One of the wives shared, "my husband is not gambling anymore since he made this commitment and this last week a few times when I have come back from our mountain garden house, he has already begun to cook the sweet potatoes because he knew I would be tired." THIS IS HUGE CULTURALLY! ABSOLUTELY HUGE!!!!This is not done by men here!!! PRAISE GOD!



Then, just this past Saturday, these men came again, sharing that they are being stirred to take this True message to others within their language group! Our hearts are just overjoyed to be able to see first-hand how the Holy Spirit of God through His all-powerful Word is moving in the lives of these three men to be His workmen, created in Christ's image to take the message of the Gospel to their 'Jerusalem'! KEEP PRAYING WITH US! KEEP PRAYING FOR EACH ONE!

May each of YOU be encouraged that YOUR LABORS of PRAYER, YOUR WORDS of ENCOURAGEMENT, YOUR DAILY SACRIFICES in the work that the LORD has given you for which you are in turn sharing with us so that these precious souls are changed for eternity! Your TOIL IS NOT IN VAIN!

Prayer Bullets:

- ***This coming week's Scripture Translation Evaluation!*** –Safe travels for all, fresh minds and ears to hear clearly, that the Scripture would be communicating clearly and that, Lord willing, the first Scripture booklets will be able to be printed and handed over to the believers in the coming months ahead!!
- ***For the believer's to continue to come to be fed in the Word of God and grow!***
- ***For our co-worker's the Wilson's back in the UK on medical home assignment-*** for positive results with current medicine treatments, for continued opportunities to share Christ with family and friends and challenging others for full time ministry, travels, finances and special time together as a family!
- ***For our co-worker's the Hulley's as they prepare for their time home in the UK on their Home Assignment beginning this July!*** –For all of the necessary preparations, scheduling, transitions, finances, housing, health as they finish well here and prepare for all that the Lord has for them in this coming year!
- ***For our family-*** as we are continuing to undergo a bit of transition as we seek to trust the Lord for His leading and strength to continue ministering among the North Wahgi in these months and year ahead perhaps on our own.
- ***For a proper balance, wisdom and grace to meet the needs of our family and the people that we live among.***
- ***For health:*** especially our Michael as he suffers through this tropical fever virus! The Hulley's daughter's both have a tummy virus as well, pray that they will recover shortly and all the rest of us will remain healthy!

Praises!! May they be endless!!

Thank You for standing with us!

Your co-worker's In Christ,

In His Loving Grip,

Levi & Robyn Lenz with Michael, Daniel and Matthew

Serving as Church Planters among the North Wahgi people of Papua New Guinea

With New Tribes Mission

The details...

Sore Cyclist...

A week ago Wednesday Levi was in an accident involving a cyclist who abruptly turned out in front of him. I will include some of his account below.

A teenage cyclist was riding along on the side of the main road and abruptly turned out in front of me after an on-coming vehicle passed by. I immediately hit the brakes certain I would be making full contact at any second. I ended up striking the rear wheel of his bike causing him to be thrown. The thoughts that ran through my head when I heard and felt the impact were put to rest as I got out of the car to assess the situation. I was relieved and so thankful to find the cyclist standing on the side holding his twisted cycle, had only endured a slight road rash on his left elbow that never bled.

The laws and culture being so different here than in our home country, I decided quickly to insist that the cyclist get in the vehicle with a few of the witnesses so that I could take him to the local hospital and to the police station to file a report. I also stopped at our headquarters and picked up a brother-in-Christ who is also a local Policeman and 2 of the mission's security guards to take along to ensure that I handled everything culturally and legally in the right way.

After interviewing each of us, the Police found the cyclist to be at fault. They did not see a need for me to take him to the hospital as his injury was so minor, but I insisted that it was necessary for the proper legal precautions. This teenager, is lucky to be alive! The fact that he only had a bit of skin scuffed up on his arm is nothing short of a hedge of angels that surrounded the vehicle I was driving and this teen's bike. We praise God continually as we consider all that could have been and for what He allowed!

Although I was found not to be at fault, on the council of the guys who accompanied me to the police station and hospital, I ended up paying K100 in 'sorry pay' (much like a peace offering and hardship gift) because of the concern that the mission vehicles frequent that road and if nothing was paid there could be future confrontations (i.e. illegal roadblocks for pocket money or stoning of these vehicles) as a result by this boy's family line. Praise the Lord with us this situation was not worse. He was certainly looking out for me and this other individual.

To add insult to injury, I was driving a mission-owned vehicle and in the process of the day's events, I ended up backing into another truck that was parked behind me. I guess the only real damage was to my pride.



Medicine Mishap... “Brotherly Love”

Another possible tragedy averted, occurred actually this very morning. Our oldest son, Michael, unfortunately has been struck with a new tropical virus that is a mutated form of the Dengue Fever virus that is carried by and transmitted through a specific kind of mosquito. This particular strand is new to PNG (December '13), or at least to our mission since this past March. It has no treatment available to fight the effects of this virus at this time other than alternating Ibuprofen and Tylenol around the clock for the days/week that the individual is feeling the painful effects of this horrible virus and riding it out. The name is Chikungunya Fever and starts with similar symptoms of Dengue fever and/or malaria with aches and pains in the joints, severe headaches and fever, resulting in a severe rash and other yuck things as well.

For Michael, he has had a consistent fever ranging between 103-104.7, chills, full body rash, terrible headache with sensitivity to light and sounds, his legs-mainly knees and fingers have been the main source of the aches and pains that he has been feeling accompanied with bouts of nausea and dizziness, not able to stand or walk. We have been alternating Tylenol and Ibuprofen as we are able in line with the medications instructions. After calling one of our medical clinic nurses this morning to check on whether or not I could increase the Tylenol dose to match his weight rather than his age (since he is larger in his age bracket) she shared that it would be fine to do so. So I was increasing the Tylenol from 1 ½ tsp. to 2 ½ tsps to see if it would have a greater effect for his relief. After hanging up the phone, I reached for a measuring spoon and without thinking filled up the spoon once than twice as I fed it to him in between. As I was filling the half measurement it dawned on me that I was not giving him 2 ½ teaspoons but 2 ½ Tablespoons (Triple the amount-6 teaspoonfuls)!!! I immediately called the nurse back and shared what I had done. She discussed it with our mission Doctor who said to give him Ipecac with lots of water to get the medicine out of his body the ‘not so fun way’!

Through tears together, Michael drank the nasty stuff and with reluctance and weakness he drank the full cups of water in order to get the necessary reaction that we needed to get the overdose of medicine out of his body quickly. It was a painful time for my little guy and knowing that I had caused this broke my heart even more to see him suffering so much. He was such a trooper and we were able to see good results with clear output after the 4th round. He then had to swallow 12 charcoal tablets to work on further absorption in his tummy. The Lord provided such a wonderful team of co-workers to surround us at this frightening time to which I am so grateful! Through prayers and acts of love and service on our behalf we surrender this day up to our Amazing Heavenly Father for His grace and protection in our family’s lives once more!

Praise You Lord! Praise You!!!