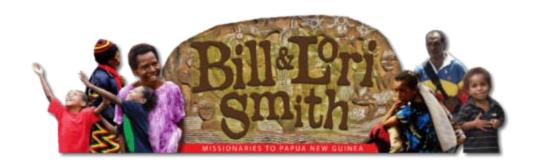
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Of Life, Death & Eternity www.billandlorismithpng.com



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Of Life, Death ...and

eternity!

This was one of "those" weeks. Every single day all week long I had bad or hard to hear news I had to share. I felt like the fore-runner of the grim reaper.

One of my greatest nightmares came true this week. For the past years we have been testing blood at our clinic for HIV infections, it has truly been a huge open door. Being able to teach about the dangers of living outside the boundaries Of GOD's plan for marriage, and sharing the hope of salvation for those infected has been a great blessing. Many people have shared how much it meant to get a Biblical perspective from our clinic not offered at other testing sites. BUT..always in the background of my heart I feared about having to tell a friend they had the deadly virus living within them. That happened this week. My friend whose husband had died a year ago rather suddenly which caused me some concern, became a GREAT BIG FLASHING RED LIGHT when I saw her. She was hardly recognizable as she had lost so much weight. She had diarrhea for three months with no end in sight...she was just a mess. SO weak and miserable. She was sure she had Typhoid. My practitioner gut was telling me something else!! She was shocked when I asked to test her for HIV infection. I was NOT SHOCKED when it came back very reactive....she has symptoms of AIDS now and I fear it is late in the game for her. Sending her blood for viral load testing will show us how advanced her condition is...but I fear it will be very high. TEARS....HUGS... PRAYERS....comfort in HIS WORD. My friend has trusted in Christ as her Savior, and she is secure in knowing she will be in heaven with GOD...BUT her eight children were the focus of our deep hurt.

Another woman also came. Her husband and baby already dead, she was not shocked at the diagnosis of her AIDS. She also will be dying soon...but my

heart aches as she is NOT yet ready. I shared the Gospel with her and prayed with her, but sadly her focus was on getting medicine for now not eternal security for later. I am praying for Justhine that GOD will work in her heart.

A young lady came to our ladies clinic this week so excited she was finally pregnant. When I could not hear a heartbeat MY heart started beating very fast with fear. The ultrasound confirmed my concern...her baby had died inside. The hope of seeing her tiny one and holding her someday depends on Sussy's choice of her own eternal destination. I prayed with her, share the Gospel with her, but I fear the numbness from the hard to hear news made it all hard to grasp. PRAYING for another opportunity with this sweet young lady. Christ is her only hope.

Another young mom came with her sweet smiley little boy. Four months old and so precious...but very very yellow eyes since birth really concerned me. His urine full of bilirubin from a dysfunctional Liver...biliary atresia is usually a very serious and often life threatening diagnosis here. Sharing with this mom the seriousness of her little one's condition...the fear and hurt just shining out from her eyes. The hope of Christ also shared...praying with the mom for her babies healing...oh GOD how life can hurt some times!!

A man with cancer of his genitals too embarrassed to get help...years of growth of the masses and now spreading to his lymph system....again, not good news for him.

A lady with advanced mouth cancer. A man with Tb for over a year. A little girl with TB of the spine. SO much hurt, so much need....so much HOPE in CHRIST TO SHARE amidst the pain here!!

I often say my most used tool in the clinic is not my otoscope or my oxyimeter or my stethoscope...it is my BIBLE. My second most needed tool is your prayers. As we share hope to the hurting and provide help for the helpless...we bring the offer of healing even if not physically possible...eternal healing! Life everlasting.

After a long week of impending death... Thursday I was pretty overwhelmed. IT was a long day. I had told that young mom her baby had died inside of her, and my heart was hurting. Getting ready for night class was just impossible. Amo had "temporary" hearing loss so he did not come in for dinner on time...I had to trek all over campus to FIND him so I was late and did not have time to eat before class. Night class is hard anyways. I am too tired to teach and the students are too tired to learn...ugh. It was hard to get my body in "exuberant" mode to make class tolerable for us all. The campus gate was not locked and it was very dark and late...and there was a whole crowd of people around my house (not ideal with my husband not here!). A young girl was in labor. OH LORD...NOT TONIGHT...my prayer shot up quickly. I was so tired and hungry and just DOWN. BUT, the Lord knows what I need more than I do some times. I was able to welcome a precious healthy little boy that night. In the

midst of our week of death, NEW LIFE was just what I needed to see. Sharing CHRIST with his family reminding them that HIS life depended on their CHOICE OF LIFE as He would follow their foot paths. His was not an end to prepare for but a START. HOPE. LIFE!! BABIES...a happy heart when I finally found my bed early in the morning!!

So many lessons this week. No power all week helped me become a whiz at the generator. (we had power for the past two hours...off again...almost!!) I am reminded again about HOW MUCH I need my amazing husband. (Absence does truly make our heart more fond and appreciative). I saw God's protection of my kids and grandkids facing potential issues...GOD once again keeps his careful hand over the babies of my heart so far away. We serve an amazing GOD...a GOD of HOPE....a GOD of mercy. May others KNOW Him, too!

As we pray this week, let's praise:

- 1) Rain each day has kept our gardens happy (still no celery yet, though!) and our water tanks full.
- 2) A faithful generator has kept our fridges and freezers mostly OK and has provided with enough power for what was truly NEEDED.
- 3) The freedom to share CHRIST openly in all we do here is beyond a blessing.
- 4) Though phone calls are hard and costly I can text with my precious valentine now in Australia.
- 5) Bill has had many opportunities to connect with our believers in Australia and we pray some building teams or short term partners will come of those open doors!
- 6) WE have So many faithful national partners here that just are always ready and able to help when needed. There are not enough words of thanks for each dear PNG ministry partner here.
- 7) Steve was in church this week...pray for Mose's daddy to come to CHRIST!!!!

WE can pray for these needs as well:

- WE covet your prayers for BILL as he sees the Hand Specialist on Tues,
 17th (Your Monday night)
- 2) Thanks for praying for Rachel and baby Zoey inside...still doing OK...on the count down so keep praying for a safe full term delivery in April!
- 3) Rachel and Rodney are candidating at a church this weekend so pray for God's will for the kids to be made clear to them and the church. Pray for safety as they travel.
- 4) Keep praying for Levi...this is a very dangerous time of year for infection and his lungs are still at high risk after his way too early arrival last March. SO far his life has been nothing short of miraculous!! What a cutie. WE stand amazed!
- 5) Numonohi Christian Academy is in great need of HELP! PRAY...SEND a teacher...COME as a teacher!!!

- 6) Special needs for our clinic....a new roof and work on our ambulance. GOD is using our little clinic as a huge light house for HIS GLORY. We need to keep it open as long as we can! Your partnership is an vital part of all we do. PRAY...GIVE...SEND supplies. GOD will use each part in an amazing way! Little is much when GOD is in it!
- 7) Pray for Lori and the kids while Bill is gone. Safety...strength... health and comfort as we miss daddy very very much!

Someone made a comment this week that I must be a very strong woman to do all that I do. I had to laugh. The truth is that I am probably the weakest of the weak. My heart is so very sensitive. I weep every day over the many that come with needs SO BIG and overwhelming. I feel so often very inadequate for the huge needs and the BIG role GOD has placed me in. BUT when we are weak...THEN WE ARE STRONG! As you stand behind us and pray...you are the Aaron's that lift the hand of the insecure Moses....and VICTORY happens!!!!! Your part is so very important and appreciated. MAY GOD BE GLORIFIED!!

No reserves (NONE!!!) , no retreats (NONE!!! Not even when there is no power and NO internet!) and NO REGRETS!!

Holding hands with you from across the oceans,

Bill (in Australia), Lori and the boys and Moses (In PNG) and precious Esta (perfect now and waiting for us to join her in Heaven but always in our hearts!)

GBBC Expansion link

http://www.abwe.org/give/online/name/GBBC%20Expansion%20Project%20-%200774413

GBBC scholarship account (help a GBBC student work to pay school fees) http://www.abwe.org/give/online/name/GBBC%20Scholarship-0774403-003

Numonohi Christian Academy:- http://usa.ntm.org/teach-positions-available

Clinic ministry (help with needed clinic roof and ambulance repairs) http://www.abwe.org/give/online/name/Bill%20&%20Lori%20Smith-0112863-020

Smith general account

http://www.abwe.org/give/online/name/Bill%20&%20Lori%20Smith%20-%200112863-001

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