

Hope for the Hopeless



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<http://billandlorismithpng.com>

“Return to the Lord thy GOD; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity....Assyria shall not save us; we will not ride upon horses neither will we say any more to the work of our hands, Ye are our gods; for in THEE the fatherless findeth mercy” Hosea 14:3

PNG is full of hopelessness. I am sure that our turmoil here is not unlike all other areas of our sin cursed world, but the hopelessness and helplessness is just so very evident every single day. My heart literally aches with the heaviness of all the suffering. Many times there are no words beyond PLEASE FATHER HELP the HELPLESS.

How blessed we are to have the HOPE Of GOD to share here amidst the daily horrors many suffer.

I had the joy this week of sharing my personal testimony at the clinic. GOD had mercy upon me when I was just a nine year old little girl lost in the security of a Christian home and religion. He showed me in the midst of my complacency that Jesus was the ONLY HOPE I could have. My loving home and wonderful church was NOT ENOUGH. I needed salvation through GOD’s plan....trusting alone in the sacrifice of CHRIST on the cross....to pay for my sin and give me HOPE of ETERNAL life! Though I was not exactly a drunk, drug addicted evil person (I was Sunday School queen!), that day changed my life!

Through the entire clinic day GOD opened doors for me to continue to personally share with my dear patients, and they also shared with me. TWO came very close to praying with me right there on the exam table but they were not quite ready yet to make that heart decision to put their full trust in Christ. Religion of a huge chain holding back many from salvation. PRAY for Nancy and Jack specifically. I could FEEL the struggle in their spirit as we talked and prayed.

Here, every day, I see the sadness of those who are fatherless. Wives who have been abandoned either physically or just emotionally (with verbal and physical abuse a continuous battle) by men that have gone on to other lives and other women. They are left to struggle to provide a home and education for the children also left behind as dad moved on. How wonderful to be able to share with these women and precious little ones that there is a GOD that is the father of the fatherless...the husband of the husbandless...and even when those close to us who are suppose to love and cherish and protect us fail. HE is ALWAYS THERE! HIS love is endless and unconditional. HOPE.

I will never stop being truly amazed at how GOD provided for my own two fatherless sons loving orchestrated by GOD into our home. HOW GOD has used all of you, our faithful prayer and ministry partners, to provide amazing HOPE for them like God's great big arms covering them in a bear hug of incomprehensible strength. Amos abandoned and abused. Aaron, abandoned by his sweet mommy by death, and abandoned by his entire family who feared the witchcraft they felt took her life (having too many babies too close together with a massive hemorrhage after Aaron's birth was not even a consideration as to the cause of her death...ugh), and thus would not even hold him, a sweet innocent needy baby. You prayed with us, supported us and encouraged us through the nightmare battle of court proceedings, paperwork and fees, and now it is finally almost ALL done. The last step...USA citizenship is just very close to being within our grasp! We can almost taste it...almost.

As you have prayed this week we saw GOD once again do the impossible. We had to have proof that Aaron has not been infected with Tuberculosis. The USA government requires a skin test in his physical examination. The problem being...here we are ALL exposed to TB constantly which makes that skin test react even if we are not INFECTED with it. Also all the babies here are given an immunization at birth to protect them from this common threat...that also makes the skin test react. ALL our kids had issues with that when applying for schooling in the USAbut with Aaron we REALLY NEEDED this skin test to show proof he was OK. The other tests that prove this are not available here, and sometimes they will not allow chest x-rays to be adequate proof. With his lung issues in infancy we feared some possible scarring may still be evident too....that my look suspicious...yikes. WE needed a miracle! WE needed that skin test to be PROOF...and GOD heard! Aaron had a minimal reaction but NOT enough to make the skin test "positive". THANK YOU GOD!!

*the court document was accepted at the Birth Registrars and they are in "process" of producing the new birth certificate....not sure why it takes SO LONG to hit "Print" on the computer, but PNG time...ugh.

*the doctor said with a negative skin test he could sign off on the physical papers....still waiting for him to SIGN....PNG time.

BUT PROGRESS!!!

*AS YOU PRAYED God has provided for the huge expense of that trip to the Capital and the fees and huge Doctor bills...wow!

*Tickets are purchased....GOD has just continued to bless as we all have walked in faith...and we have seen a true miracle unfold before our eyes as GOD STILL watches over and provides for these special boys!!

GOD is providing for the [Lower Bena Baptist Church](#) building project. Our time is just very near to when we need to see this dream become reality!!! A church filled with amazing women of faith who, left husbandless (or for many even worse...left WITH their dead beat men!), have prayed and sacrificed and worked so hard to see their FATHER give them a church building! It is just truly impossible to think of GOD doing this...a true testimony of HIS power and strength as our LOVING and LIVING Savior. HOW fitting GOD is working this out the week before we celebrate the victory of EASTER SUNDAY.

*the wood needed for the frame is DONE and DRYING.

*We need \$3000 still so pray pray pray!

*our builder friend is getting ready to be on his way here...pray for Hannah and Greg as they travel.

*our men from the different churches are getting pumped up and excitedso hopefully they will HELP! (with very FEW men in the church this is vital!)

*WE NEED some DRY WEATHER...so please change the normal prayer for rain to prayer for SUN these next few weeks!!

[Camp is around the corner for us](#)...we NEED GOD to work as we orchestrate and get the last minute details completed. Many of our teens come from broken homes or homes without a strong godly Father present. Many are coming that are still unsaved and in GREAT NEED of a Heavenly Father...this is our week! THIS is our CHANCE to impact the future of our country, our churches and our homes here in PNG. If we can see GOD reach these kids...we can see GOD work in the future of our great land. It is SO massively important that we bathe this time in prayer. Many of our kids have hope in the wrong thing...the works of THEIR hands...the world and it's enticements. HOW soon they will find that hope was just an empty dream unless they come to the Lord. THE THEME this year is 20/20 vision...seeing things accurately through the WORD of GOD as it guides our lives. SO NEEDED.

*We need food...and money to buy it. PLEASE PRAY.

*WE need good weather with rain at night and hot sunny days.

*We need God's blessing on the speakers, counselors and session leaders as His WORD is proclaimed.

*WE need LOTS OF KIDS to come!! Pray for good roads, provision for camp fees and excited teens to fill our campus.

[Lusilo Baptist Church](#) is truly a place filled with hopelessness. OUR hearts ache to see the people there chained by fear of Satan and his power. OUR hearts explode with joy to see the many coming each week with hunger in their eyes. THEY are seeking help, but the chains and fears and evil is strong there. IT is a spiritual battle playing out literally on that front line. WE NEED HELP. This battle will be fought on our knees!

* There are several that we feel are really really close to making that decision to put their

trust and faith in Christ. PRAY for Lucy, Steven, Devo, Lillian, Aaron especially as they are facing a battle in their hearts.

*Pray for the controversy that Satan keeps bringing as we are starting to build the church building. We are building on enemy territory and we KNOW nothing will be done easily.

*Pray as we battle the roads each week....the rain keeps making the trip harder and harder. The "road" beats our bodies and our vehicles, but the people there are FATHERLESS and they NEED the HOPE Christ can GIVE! IT is worth whatever it takes for those dear ones to find HIS mercy.

What a great joy it is to be able to see GOD move and work and answer prayer. He is opening so many opportunities for us.

*Lori has been asked to work again with Nursing student from the [Goroka Nursing College](#). GOD seems to be opening up more doors for her involvement there in that Government training program...PRAY for open doors! PRAY for the 4 students working with us at our clinic in these next weeks that they will see CHRIST is the center of all we do.

*WE are hearing more and more from parents for the need of good Christian training programs for their kids...pray for more open doors as we desire to expand our college to include other degrees with Bible and ministry emphasis.

Many GREAT NEEDS:

*[Lilian](#), [Able's mom](#) is really struggling. As her precious baby grows, her cancer explodes as well. She is weak, in much pain and struggling to care for precious Able. Her husband is now employed at a mine a long distance away...he does not even come back home until April 15th now.

SHE NEEDS PRAYER. She is 29 weeks along in her pregnancy and we are concerned she may not have the strength to make it to delivery! Richard has seemed to come back to his family and the LORD but pray he remains faithful.

*[Nesove](#) is getting ready for transition. He will be going to live with his new family, his dad's sister, on April 2. PRAY for them to be saved. PRAY for our hearts as we release yet another of our precious babies.

*[Lavinia](#) is doing very well...one knee continues to be very swollen (Baker's cyst for you medical folks!)...pray it resolves...what a miracle. From near death to vibrant!!

*WE ARE HAVING A **HARD TIME FINDING COLD AND COUGH MEDICINE!** If you would be willing to help, there is a container coming in April.

WE can sure use tablet cough and cold or decongestants and children's liquid cold and cough and Tylenol/acetaminophen & Ibuprofen. ANY help would be amazing. You can send boxes to: SIL/JAARS International Shipping (container leaves April 22)

[Bill Smith ABWE PNG](#)
[c/o JAARS Center Warehouse](#)
[7601 Radin Road](#)
[Waxhaw, NC 28173](#)

It would be helpful if the [senders could make a small list of content](#)

and put that list in an envelope taped to the box. That way we have a better idea what we are shipping without guessing or opening up every box.

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-OR- send by Regular post office to:

Seigu Clinic
PO BOX 456
Goroka, EHP 441
Papua New Guinea

As you pray...you sacrifice and partner....GOD is doing these amazing things before our very eyes. OUR FATHER is brining HIS MERCY as we look to Him not the work of our own hands or our world to provide for these many needs. Thank you for holding hands with us as we face the misery, the hurt, the tears and abuse so we can share the mercy of GOD with the hopeless and helpless around us here.

No retreats, no reserves, no regrets!
Bill, Lori and the boys.

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