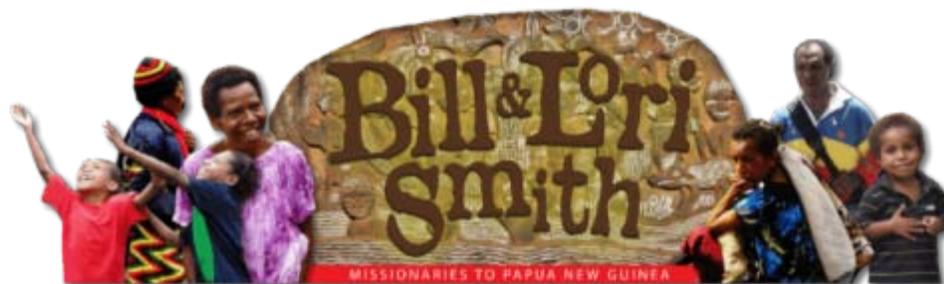


Tragedy and Triumph



March 2 2014

“Healing begins when we recognize how vulnerable our empty places make us and seek wholeness in CHRIST alone”

How many times we see in the face of great difficulty, GOD opens amazing doors of HIS grace and brings triumph through difficulties. I have learned in the past 20 plus years of ministry that need is actually a really great thing...it opens the door for our TRUST and God' s often amazing intervention.

I have personally experienced need and challenge this week with my same right foot continuing to cause trouble for me. I have had a spot on my ankle that has gone from an itchy pearly spot to a sore that had eroded and had a firm ridge around it...that just would not heal after more than nine months. Now, it is my ankle...a boney place...and also my previous vein surgery makes the circulation problematic, but GOD just kept stirring me to get that spot removed and biopsied to make sure the constant sun exposure here has not started a little cancer growth. I have learned never to ARGUE with GOD....I never win...  I got the site biopsied this week and will have results in a few weeks so if there is a problem we can hit it right away when I get to the USA. Problem being, our Dr suggested that she was concerned with the location, the circulation issues and the high bacteria count of the tropics causing problems for the healing. I have tried to keep DOWN and IN (lots of nausea, vomiting and diarrhea!) the strong antibiotics, but her concerns became more than a warning on Saturday when infection started with fever, body and head aches, swollen lymph nodes and a weepy, inflamed incision area....ugh. WE did call our travel agent, and there is the ability to change my (and Aaron's) tickets to leave in just two weeks not four getting me out of the tropical paradise into the frozen USA where all bacteria is killed off by the ice!! PROBLEM being...it costs several hundred a ticket with the MANY tickets that need to be changed for the trip home. We don't really want to get stuck here with a badly infected leg as infection can explode and quickly become even life threatening faster than you could believe. SO weighing caution more than risk it looks like we will make that decision Monday and change our tickets since we have tickets already. I should heal

better there than here with this wound. HATE the thought of earlier good byes here...LOVE the earlier hellos there...my life is a paradox! SO PRAY we can get this under control in the next two weeks so I am not traveling sick....pray for the many details of these changes to happen smoothly...my tickets to the Capital are actually cheaper with the change...go figure. International flights will NOT be the same, though!  BUT had this not happened NOW we would have missed this last two week window to change our current tickets rather than needing to buy NEW ones... GOD is in control!! SO...pray with us for the needed finances now for our trip home as Bill still needs to get his and Amo's flights paid for to join us on our mini-furlough in May. We are reminded of HOW FAR we are away when we have to pay for the LONG flights back to the USA. We know this NEED will bring GOD'S miraculous provision for our trip back for ministry in the USA with our churches and family these next few months. ([Lori and Aaron will be in NY by March 20..in time to celebrate my son in law's birthday in PERSON!!](#))

[Pata](#) is failing rapidly now. Such a hard tragedy to see this sweet little boy fade away. They have done nothing for him in the Capital. With the CT machine still broken, they have given him no treatments. The tumor is growing and now he has lost almost full vision in his left eye and has almost full paralysis in the left side. He is not eating now and is just rapidly deteriorating. The Drs there want him to be released from the head doctor who is not currently there and they have no idea when he will return. They are not planning any further treatment, so Nicodemus wants Pata just to be released so he can take him home to die with his family around him. PRAY. IN the midst of this mess, GOD has used this family to be a light of CHRIST to many in the hospital and even in our school as we watch their testimony of faith In this huge trial. PRAY for Pata to be released THIS week from the hospital so he can get to his home village before his death. PRAY for Jumda and the boys here to have peace. In the midst of the hurt, their pregnancy is going well and as Jumda shared, the hope of a new little one to love comforts her heart in the hurt of her watching Pata suffer...GOD is so merciful.

Watching the [tragedy of a church split and broken apart by hurt feelings and wrong actions](#) we have prayerfully and boldly been confronting both groups for the past few years without much progress. We asked for prayer two weeks ago as the leaders of these two churches finally agreed to meet with Bill. The men willing to acknowledge their problems had one huge fear...the women! There is nothing as deadly as a woman with hurt feelings who is holding a grudge...like a cancer this has been eating away at hearts for years now and the damage has been very deep!! We would NOT relent, though. As they so "honestly" said, we kept picking off the scab of their sore and making it hurt again! (Not appreciated, but needed). Saturday afternoon there was a meeting planned with both churches. Bill was not sure if anyone would even show up...but both congregations were waiting for him. Would they be ready for a fight??? Would they come with prepared hearts??? We really did not have a guess! What happened just totally blew Bill away. Broken hearts, forgiveness sought and received, tears, laughter...joy returned after bitter anger and even hatred. Bill went through the five steps of conflict resolution and what a joy to see these two churches holding each others hands in a big circle of unity as they promised each other and GOD that all was

NOW in the past...and the future was a unified effort to win this community to CHRIST. We both are still crying as we see what GOD has done in the hearts of all these dear ones we love intensely! Unified now in true form as the body of CHRIST is restored!! Tragedy become TRIUMPH!! ANSWERED PRAYER!!

[Tragedy is a common problem that brings people to our clinic.](#) One girl came to the clinic this week. What she thought was just a stomach flu turned out to be a totally unexpected pregnancy. A huge shock for this 14 year old girl. Afraid of the outrage of her parents she just melted into a emotional mess right before me. What a great open door to minister to this heart so fearful and vulnerable. Afraid her father would disown her, I had a joy of sharing with her a Heavenly FATHER Who loved her unconditionally and Who would never abandon her even when she had mad a big mistake. We talked, read God's Word, and prayed as she sweetly put her faith and trust in CHRIST. Alice gave me a hug as she left...a few hours of our time...a young life touched in the midst of tragedy in her eyes...with amazing TRIUMPH of new life in CHRIST!

Another man came this week with what appears to be a large brain tumor that has caused his right eye to become totally blind. Massive headaches and a bulging, unaligned eye causing him great and obvious distress. NOT much we could do for him...but share eternal hope. PRAYING Timothy can know for sure he has trusted in Christ. He is faithful at his church, but not really sure he KNOWS Christ...the only way we can go to GOD. Trusting this tragedy brings great triumph for him, too.

SO many needs...so many open doors....such a great and all powerful GOD.

"Faith is not believing in my own unshakable belief, it is believing an unshakable GOD when EVERYTHING in me TREMBLES and QUAKES"

[Join us as we seek more TRIUMPH in our needs this week believing in the GOD that answers prayer:](#)

1) PRAISE: WE got [Aaron's PNG passport back this weekend](#). PRAY: Now we need to get this Australian visa attached to that new number. His USA passport was not issued yet so we will travel still with his PNG one. PRAY for God to go before all these processing details along with the need of our rebooking our tickets now. GOD is able to work out all the details for our trip to the USA in these next two weeks as HE remains in control of all the details. BEFORE we even SENT this update or even made the changes to the tickets (we need to wait for Monday to do that) GOD already provided ALL the money that was needed to make the change in our tickets.....GOD you AMAZE us with your FAITHFULNESS!!

2) PRAY: [We will be transitioning the babies into their new homes this week, by Friday](#), so Lori will still be here in case they get sick in their new environments. PRAY as it is no less than heart rendering to say the least. PRAY for them to adjust well. They will be coming back and forth some to ease them into this change. PRAY for GOD to bring their daddy back to CHRIST. PRAISE: the babies will

be in Christian homes for now at least. As we have claimed since his birth...GOD is ABLE for Able and now JOYCE.

3) PRAY: The [road up to Lusillo is worse than ever](#). PRAY for GOD to bring a national Pastor to minister up there consistently. Pray for progress in getting the road fixed permanently. PRAISE: one of our graduates was staying up at Lusillo this weekend. HE and his wife covered the ministry there for us as the road was impossible to travel this week.

4) PRAY: for the [GBBC expansion](#). Bill and our National Deputy Headmaster and his wife, and our two leaders of the Education program will be going to Port Moresby for some fund raising and informational meetings as well as more Government paperwork needed as we progress towards the expansion to University status. PRAY for these upcoming meetings...for solid PNG partners in this endeavor...for more prayer support and direction as we follow GOD in these steps of faith. PRAISE: the new program is really going well and our teachers are very impressed with the progress of the students.

5) PRAY: for [Lori's ankle wound to heal as the trip back to the USA](#) is LONG and exhausting when you are in good health. PRAY the antibiotics will stay DOWN and IN...and that they will effectively decrease the infection. We have two weeks to get her healthy before facing that challenge. PRAISE: we have great Doctors here to help us, even though their facilities and supplies are limited, THEY are such blessings to us!

6) PRAY: [for the needed medical supplies as the warehouse fire continues to make finding medicine hard](#). PRAISE: each day we finish clinic...what we have had has been enough!

7) PRAISE [GOD for restoration of Kisim Bek Baptist Church and Praise Baptist Church](#). PRAY as they now are planning a public demonstration of their unity to the community. A true celebration to glorify GOD!

"HE delights in nothing more than our choice to believe HIM over what we SEE and FEEL"...may we choose to allow our challenges and difficulties, our Tragedies, this week to be mere vehicles of trust impregnated TRIUMPHS this week. TO GOD be the GLORY.

NO restraints, no retreats...NO REGRETS,
Bill, Lori and the kids.

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