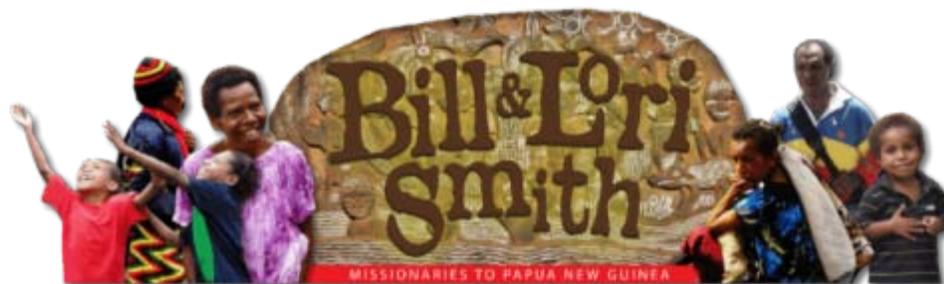


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April 14 2014 <http://billandlorismithpng.com>



Have you ever just taken time to study your **Hands**?

I am just amazed at the intricacy GOD has designed within our bodies.

Watching our tiny man, Levi, as his body was taken so early from it's secret

weaving room in Becky's body has just been such a journey of amazement for us. The translucent skin of the micro-preemies giving a clear view of each blood vessel and the inner workings of each finger and his hand. The itty bitty finger nails, and the fluid movement of his tiny fingers and hands is just amazing to watch...truly we are fearfully and wonderfully made. THE strength of Levi's grasp is so great as he so determinedly tries to pull out that nasty ventilator tube in his mouth and surprisingly has almost succeeded, he is so feisty and rowdy, my sweet warrior grandson. HANDS! Such a big function for such a small part of our bodies.



This week I have been meditating on God's goodness and HIS STRENGTH He gives us as His children. It has been a week of intense emotional and physical strain here for us on the USA side of our family. In one week both **my daddy and my precious grandson underwent serious surgery**. Trying to be there between two hospitals as concern for both these precious guys literally ripped my heart in two was so difficult. I sure wished I could clone myself to be at both places as once...but life does not work that way. (thankfully prayer has no physical boundries). IN the midst of all the physical exhaustion of being gone all day at the hospitals and then home to **a precious 5 year old boy** kind of left in the dust while his mommy cares for the other guys this week, trying meet his little needs late into the night as he also needed a piece of mommy, the pieces of mommy were all gone and little to nothing was left at the end. Yet an amazing strength surrounded me in the midst of my emotional and physical depletion...I was being HELD in the HAND of my CREATOR. I love the **picture of John 10:28-29**. His hands surround me...nothing can



no one
can
snatch
them
out of
my hand

penetrate them...the STRENGTH of GOD holds my crumbling,
overwhelming world together no matter how seemingly
impossible that may be...ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE with
HIM!!

Hands, specially GOD's hands, are truly an amazing thing.

Many hands hold ours on a daily basis. SO many holding hands with us now in prayer as our family is divided by the world's massive size. WE are ministering in very distant mission fields now to be sure!

The NICU ministry continues to be filled with open doors as you pray. Seeing the surprisingly fast recovery of our Levi from a very serious surgery where much more compensation for his little body was expected has been an awesome testimony of God's answering prayer. Levi needed to have the support of the stronger ventilator for a while (was maybe getting weaned down to the lesser one in the night?? We will see!) and his heart rate was a little higher for a while, while his body had the challenge of his blood moving in a whole new way for him.. but other than pain he did not really have much more reaction yet to this major invasion of his tiny body! His lung had to be deflated for them to get to his heart so we need to pray that they will both heal well now from that part of the procedure, too. Overall, though, he did much better than anticipated as your hands hold ours in prayer for him , and GOD's HANDS continued to hold his precious life!

HE is twice the man now that he was...I think Becky said his weight has now doubled! WOW. Sounds like a missionary on furlough! Great things happening at C pod in the NICU...cool to watch.

Please pray as we have interaction with the nursing staff and Doctors. Many opportunities continue to open up as we share about GOD through their peaked interest in our ministry. Many opportunities with the other family members there, hurting, too. A couple with twin boys are a friend of one of our supporting church's members here...so an open door to minister to them through this acquaintance. Needing to "run" into Jason and Aaron's mommy and daddy! Pray that happens this week. Three of our other "Friends" are still there and one lady I have been able to pray with twice already is still very open to the GOSPEL each time we talk. I had some good opportunities with Anne, the nurse in charge of the joint replacement unit there where Daddy had his surgery, as well. She wanted to know about WHY not just WHAT we do.....she was a bit overwhelmed with the answer, but pray for GOD to use that seed to open a door into her heart. EVERY SEED our HAND plants is able to be nurtured by the HAND of the Spirit of GOD...His Word will not return void.

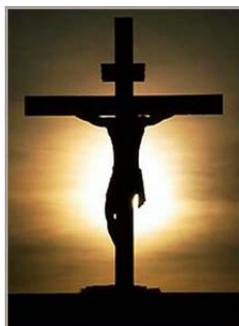
Many hands are also holding the ministry on the other side of the world...less we forget PNG in the midst of our family crisis here in the USA! My sweet man and little man there

are getting through this time of separation well. Thankfully Bill is a decent cook. I had to leave so abruptly there were NO meals in the freezer as we normally do when mommy is gone for any length of time. **PRAISE GOD the Hamburger Helper arrived this last week...ya!** I sent a whole huge box of goodies as soon as I got back to the USA and they did not even get charged customs on the "emergency care package"! God is SO loving!! The two boys went on a father and son ministry trip to Mount Hagen this weekend where they presented the **GBBC expansion** program to the pastors up there! How exciting for us to see this need at GBBC to be met by many hands both in PNG and the USA financially. But, the holding of hands collectively across the GLOBE as we pray for direction, provision and enablement for this huge VISION to become REALITY has been the most incredible experience of our missionary career over the decades. Seeing GOD unite PNG believers and our many, many faithful support partners around the world together so pictures the plan GOD has for HIS BODY to work and move to reach the lost has been a blessing beyond what words can explain. WE are seeing GOD just bring this together in ways that surpass even our deepest faith as we see in a new way JUST HOW BIG God's Hands really are!



So many hands working together with ours as we see **GOD bring together medical supplies**. I have about six boxes full of medicine, crutches, TWO OXIMETERS!, and some clothes for the growing boys for next term here needing to be added to the treasure pile in our storage space. SO exciting to see GOD use HIS people as HIS hands to fulfill the many needs of those precious souls in PNG! **GOD is blessing in PNG too! TODAY GOD allowed the government health system drop off 10 large boxes of medical supplies to us at our clinic. More than we have ever received before! Praise the Lord!**

I am not sure that there is anything more comforting as someone just coming along side and placing their hand in yours...a hand to squeeze your shoulder to bring reminder of support and calm...a hand shake of promised support...HANDS.



Yet as we come upon Easter, my heart meditation also brings me to that wretched but glorious day when my beloved Jesus **stretched out His hands on top of that rugged dirty cross**. The very hands that gathered the dirt and formed Adam's body...the hands that held and blessed the children...that touched the many sick and healed them from their suffering...that washed the feet of the disciples with such humility and love...that catch the tears of the hurting...those HANDS. He willingly lay them down as huge nails were plunged into the depth of his palms ripping through the detailed anatomy I have been so amazed to see in our Levi. HE refused to take advantage of the anesthetic containing drink offered to him before this humanly overwhelming horror was done to Him...He choose to feel the full force of MY SIN upon Himself. Those are the same hands MY NAME is written upon...the cause of His agony was ME. How could I do anything but GIVE HIM MY ALL as HE truly GAVE HIS ALL FOR ME. What love we

have to demonstrate as we reflect so GREAT a love shown towards us.

“WE can give without loving but we cannot LOVE without GIVING”

“ WE cannot touch another’s heart with anything less than our own”

Jesus may we radiate your love in our lives this week...as we use our HAND because you gave YOUR HANDS for us!

Please continue to pray for the many needs as we see how GOD will use our hands to be blessings to others!

1. Our church here has a **ministry in the inner city of Rochester** this week during Spring Break....they forecast nasty weather. PRAY for God to intervene and bring good weather, lots of opportunities and safety as many teens and adults reach into our mission field here in Rochester NY this week.

2. Pray for **Amo and Bill as they start preparations to cover the MANY responsibilities in PNG** before they join us on our mini-furlough. PRAY as GOD directs our time. WE want to once again divide our bodies into three or four parts and minister in ALL place...but God’s plan is just for ONE of us...so pray we follow HIS plan for these next very busy months.

3. Pray for the **many needed supplies** we are trying to gather to use this next term on the field.

MEDICAL needs (with the two pharmacies burned down this is a huge huge need as we go back in July!) Some have ordered from Walmart and had them delivered here... some have given money to purchase supplies here rather than pay postage...either way works. PRAY as I will be trying to contact local pharmacies to see if we can get some deals or discounts (or donations work, too!!)

**Cold and cough (liquid for kids and tablet for adults)

**Ibuprofen (tablet and liquid for kids) and Naproxen Sodium

**Band-aids, ace bandages (used and still good shape fine!), gauze and dressing supplies, etc.

**Size medium exam gloves (or sterile surgeons gloves if you can find them!)

**betadine, rubbing alcohol, peroxide.

**any other medical supplies or medicine that you may not have needed to use and are sitting idle in the house can be put to use!!

Any supplies can be sent to

**170, City View Dr,
Rochester NY 14624-1343**



Other needs:

**Twin or queen/king blankets, sheets

**Towels (blue, green, brown preferred).

**couch, floor rugs, money to buy a new fridge as ours may last for BILL but needs replacement when we get back home...our fridge feeds MANY!! Big need!!

BOYS clothes.

**no malls in GOROKA!! WE are trying to find size 7-14 boys clothes (shorts, pants, short sleeve tee shirts or collared shirts, PJ's, Spring to summer weight sweat shirts or sweat pants and jackets too needed for cool evening and mornings up in the mountains. ANY help so appreciated. Used and out grown very acceptable!! WE happily take hand me downs!!

Baby ministry: Also looking for a baby carrier type/car seat, and another small foldable crib and mattress or folding play pen or something easily stored but that would be suitable to use as a bed when needed IN HOPES that GOD will bring another needy baby to my arms again. MY (LORI) favorite part of our ministry !!!!

4. **PRAY for our sweet LEVI.** Pray as they hope to start feeding him again. PRAY for his lungs, his heart, and that GOD will protect him from infection in his tiny intestines. PRAY for protection of his hearing, vision
And brain with all the higher concentrations of oxygen and pressure from the ventilator. WE know his life and body are in GOOD HANDS as his weaving is being continued!!
5. PRAY for **Rachel and Rodney** as they seek a pastoral ministry after Rodney's graduation in May. They would love a place with a Christian School where Rachel could continue to use her skills as an elementary teacher, but they are just seeking GOD's direction for the next step in their ministry. PRAY as they are not sure what is next after MAY...a month away!
6. PRAY for needs at **GBBC**. The work scholarship program enables students to work on school and church projects while getting paid with money that goes directly to their school bill at the college. IT helps the school and churches while providing for their education and preparation for MINISTRY...win win! (to give www.abwe.org give to **GBBC scholarship account 0774403-003**)
7. PRAY for **our family**...the time of separation has been very very difficult. Pray for our marriage, our kids and our strength physically and emotionally!
8. PRAY for **Lori's dad** as he is now home and recovering from his total knee replacement. He is happy to be getting paid back for all the money invested in Lori's medical training..(HA) and Lori is so blessed to be able to care for her sweet daddy at this time of his need!! IT is a long road of recovery but the surgery is done now...whew!
9. **Lori's foot...well...another story.** MRI approved but not sure that will help us relieve the pain. WE can at least find out what is the cause maybe...pray for wisdom as we continue this trail of discomfort! As I say...more time on my knees and less on my feet is not a bad thing!
10. **PATA UPDATE:** He is home at his parents' village. He is able to eat and move somewhat. He seems to feel better. Pray for God to do a miracle for him.

NO RESTRAINT...NO RETREATS...NO REGRETS.

His will nothing more nothing less..NOTHING ELSE.

Blessings amidst the many tears and tiredness now as we hold hands and PRAY

Bill and Amo in PNG, Lori and Aaron in the USA. (GOD holding our hands together across the vast oceans!!)

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