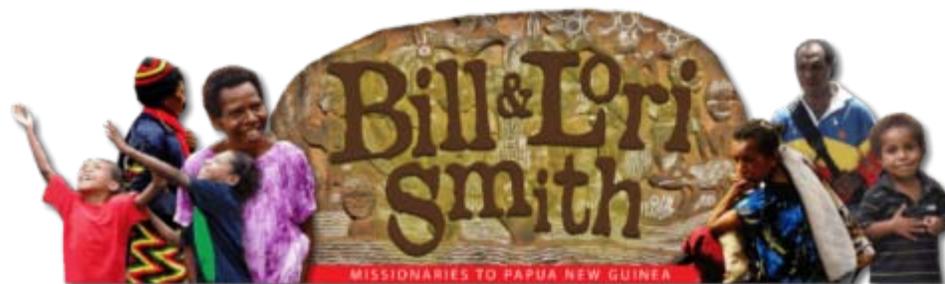


Extravagant Love <http://billandlorismithpng.com>



April 7 2013 Extravagant LOVE

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I consider myself somewhat an expert on the topic of extravagant love. I have been enveloped in this amazingly unique and wonderful “blanket” since my birth. My parents, you see, had a long and hard wait for my arrival. Children came only through great agonizing prayer and physical suffering for my precious mom. THEN, God gave them me (yes, I hear your snickers...WHAT A GIFT...ha! I know!). **Mama even “ordered” a girl** and so my entire life has been brainwashed in pink...but that is OK as it is my favorite color now! My entire life I have been enveloped in extravagant love, and as an extension of that love, now my husband, our children and their children also have been pulled into that blessing as well. The one thing I have learned above all is that such overwhelming and all inclusive love is received totally for free...no strings attached at all....but it is given with great sacrifice.

Last week we had the great joy of celebrating the source of ALL extravagant love as we contemplated the unspeakable give of GOD as HE gave his OWN SON as a blood sacrifice to pay for our individual sin. A free gift of salvation at the cost of our Savior. A bit too overwhelming to fully comprehend but the truth that gives our heart more joy than words could possibly express.

As we know, that extravagant love sending Christ to the Cross continues also to envelop us, God’s beloved and cherished children. Boy do we feel and experience that love!

Our family has been amazingly and extravagantly loved and blessed by GOD these past months.

We agonized with and for our dear **Becky and John**, as our new son chose to follow GOD by faith and leave the job that kept him from church each week. As we all prayed the many months, and saw GOD meet the needs of our kids in amazing ways as they worked hard and were so careful with their finances, the need of employment still “hung” in the air. Well, dear ones, GOD has heard, and answered in His always amazing way. John has a job near the area the kids want to settle in, and it just seems so very perfect for his gifts and interests. He is enjoying it and learning more about his area of training

as he grows into this new position. THANK YOU GOD for hearing our prayers!



Our precious baby girl, [Ruthie](#), is graduating from College. Such a huge milestone for any young person...and her mommy and daddy are a half a world away from her. But for our Incredible GOD that is not a problem. He just provided a ticket for her mommy to come witness that special day through a hefty Tax return (thanks to my daddy for being our tax man to get all we were entitled to!!!). A huge hug for us indeed. BUT our extravagant GOD was not done there. Two little boys wanted and needed to hug their siblings and grandparents, too. GOD listened to the heart cries of Amo and a dear friend covered HIS TICKET miraculously as well. [Aaron](#) needed to get his USA citizenship ,and all the benefit and protection that offers oversea USA residents, too. GOD miraculously is in the process of providing that as well. The cost of the immigration visa he needed dropped from \$1000 to \$100 the week we applied (a very important zero to be sure!), and He kept Aaron's Tb skin test, miraculously, from reacting, as well as helped us find the missing adoption paperwork lost in the files of the Goroka Court house so that his amended birth certificate could be granted from the PNG government. WOW. The USA government has already approved his visa...is ready to accept him as a citizen as soon as we enter immigrations in Dallas, Texas on our way to Florida. **JUST ONE MORE MOUNTAIN!!** The Doctor we were required to have complete his physical **STILL has not completed the needed paperwork** we have to submit. His staff are NOT allowing our representative to talk with him personally and we have only an email address for him as they will not let us speak to him either. UGH!!!! PRAY PRAY PRAY. Our time is fleeting before our trip dates. **We need GOD TO DO THIS!**

Such extravagant love demonstrated for us and Ruthie has not stopped their, either. We have been blessed with many dear friends that have come to visit us. The Smiths (no not related!) from ABWE-Canada were here, then just a few days later, Bill's folks came to visit us for two weeks, then the following week our friends the Flegals and Nathan also came to visit. Our home has been full and our table blessed with much sweet fellowship as of late. But with several of our visitors also has come the amazing gift of frequent flyer points! IT takes a LOT of points to get a person half way around the world. BUT we have enough to get our baby girl home to the place of her birth. She has a special friend whom she is considering spending her life with, and he needs to see where she was born and how she grew up. He needs to be able to experience the "WHY" as to our lifestyle of living a world away from our beloved kids. HE needs to see the extravagant love we have for the amazing people of PNG and see the overwhelming love they also have for our baby girl and she has for them...as they are her true family. How amazing for GOD to provide this for us. BUT, as Bill went to book the tickets, we had a shock. We have enough points to get her ticket...but the airlines still need to get their pockets lined a bit at our expense. We are finding the taxes they charge on FREE tickets will still cost us **an additional \$700 beyond** what we already have to cover her flight...ugh!! We expected to pay some...but they have added much more revenue for themselves than we have previously seen. PLEASE pray. GOD is able. His love for His children and His servants is extravagant.

God has been [extravagantly loving](#) our College ministry as well. Living all together in the same fence, we feel like family in many ways with our sweet students. WE cry with them when they hurt and have needs, and rejoice when GOD blesses. We have seen [GOD bring in more PNG support to our college](#) these past months than ever before...along



with added gifts of love from our USA friends...GOD has been good. Our people are crying, though, with the need for their kids to have a place to have college training with Biblical Truths and principles. SO many of the kids are getting truly turned away from GOD at secular universities. [PRAY with us for the needed expansion of our facilities and training beyond just Pastoral studies.](#) WE are [losing our kids....our parents are hurting and crying...](#)we NEED God to open doors and flood us with the resources we need for this crucial NEED to be met. Only GOD can do this ...it is huge. PRAY WITH US.

As we have been the recipients of such overwhelming love we also have obligations. "This is my COMMANDMENT, that ye love one another as I have loved you" John 15:12. [Love is an interesting thing, though. It truly is even more wonderful to give it than receive it.](#)



This week we had the opportunity to [extravagantly love the dear people](#) in the community of our first church plant, [Ufeto](#). WE dearly love the believers there, as they are our first real family that helped us grow from green newbie missionaries to the old timers (hopefully wiser now!) we are today. Going back and helping them reach out into their community and evangelize was so special. Mobile clinic days are long and hard days, though. WE treated hundreds and hundreds of sores, and wounds. I examined and treated 178 people in the course of that one day. WE spent hundreds and hundreds of dollars on the seeming millions of pills and gallons of liquid medicine dispensed to meet the needs of that large group....but we touched lives. Please pray as we need about [\\$5000 to replace the medicine](#) used over the last 2 months.

One woman in particular came. I remembered her from our last outreach day there. She came with her young daughter and grandson. They were so worried. This little guy had massive diarrhea and despite treatment at the hospital it just would not stop. He was weak and lethargic. They were so afraid he would die. I treated him with some different medications that he had not been given yet, and we just took time and stopped and prayed for GOD to touch his little body and help the medicine stop the diarrhea draining, literally, the life from him. As a grandmother totally enraptured with my precious baby girls, I could feel this woman's pain. Her grandson was one of my first patients of the day this week....he was glowing in good health. The diarrhea had totally stopped two days after we started the new treatment and he started eating and drinking like a COW his young mom happily reported! HA! We rejoiced. But when I treated Grandma at the end

of the day, I just mentioned to her how thrilled I was that God healed her grandson. She was totally shocked that I had remembered them. I told her that I went home from the clinic the last time and kept praying for them all...tears just ran down her face. She hugged me so tight that I literally heard my ribs pop. I found out that [she was the one lady who put her hand up for salvation that morning](#). She had seen the GOD of love restore her grandson through the compassion of medical evangelism...through the love gifts of many of you to provide ALL the medicine we dispense....and she wanted IN!! EXTRAVAGANT, life changing love. [It has great cost....but oh the benefits are countless...eternal, actually.](#)

Our bodies were truly spent that day, but Pastor Enoch [reports that their church has been full and he has seen adults making salvation decisions nearly each week](#) at church. Expensive days...yes. Hard , long ,physically draining days...yes. BUT fruit! AMEN. Thanks for all the help us by providing financially and by sending medical supplies to our clinic. We got home from that day, and three more boxes awaiting us...you do not know how encouraging that is! Our little boys lunches that keep feeding the thousands! GOD amazes us. His love is extravagant.

WE have the opportunity to love extravagantly the many love starved teens we are praying here to fill our campus in just over a week now. Are you here with us yet...come on board.

[We NEED much prayer to envelop April 15-20.](#)

*many can not come because they can not afford the camp fee. The cost is \$25 for the week (BIG MONEY for them here!). Can you help a kid come to camp??? Even a gift of \$10 makes a difference.

[Can you pray for these kids to get to camp.](#) For those in other areas the cost of their transportation just explodes the cost

of them coming, but GOD CAN DO THIS. PRAY for Him to provide and stir the heart of many to come. We are praying for 400 this year! JOIN US.



* [Pray for rain at night and sun in the day](#)

*[Pray for good prices for the TONS of food we need to find to feed these kids](#)

*pray for good health and for strength for all of us working to make camp happen that week.

*[BUT PRAY HARDEST for GOD to work in the hearts and lives of these kids as HIS WORD is shared!](#) Pray for the many session leaders, the counselors and for the guest speaker, Pastor Steven Rabona. May GOD bring MANY TO HIM and Closer to Him that week!!

[LOVE MUCH???? You are LOVED MUCH!!!](#)

Your prayers and partnership in the ministry here is truly God's hugs for our hearts. THANKS beyond words.

No reserves, no retreats...NO REGRETS!

Bill, Lori and the boys.



URGENT NEED: **Baby Able's mom Lilian** is in great physical need. She is going to the hospital on Monday, 8, to see the surgeons to find out when they will take her little one c-section and then do a bilateral tubal ligation for her so she can no longer go through this agony of pregnancy with her breast cancer, too. My heart is torn between watching her cancer explode and fear for her unborn baby that still needs developmental time before delivery. PRAY for the Dr to have wisdom and pray for Lilian to have grace needed. Able is blossoming before our eyes...he is so precious. I already LOVE his sibling. 

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