

Ringing Forth Truth

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## RINGING forth TRUTH

This is it...our last week. Next Sunday we will be home in PNG. Wow...no matter how hard we prepare these last few days of furlough seem just totally overwhelming as emotion and physical exhaustion battle with the mind and heart of faith compelling us onto that plane. The joy of going home and the thrill of the long awaited hellos help through the heart wrenching GOOD byes to be sure, but in the process of this week unfolding the pendulum of those emotions swing back and forth of our hearts. **IT is a spiritual battle and emotional rollercoaster.**



I am a very visual person. I always seek to keep prayer reminders and truth concepts front and center before my eyes. I have had a plan since my birthday in May. A goal...to use my precious gifts given me in monetary form for a very unique heart guide these last few days. Saturday I went shopping for that special planned and perfectly timed extravagance. IT was a ring I was hunting down and GOD led me to just the right one (in that it was over 70% off on a special sale was icing on the cake ..happy belated birthday go me!!) The ring I was seeking is a special ring...a ring with a reminder. All my jewelry has purpose and represents something special that I often use as a "tool" in "intentional" conversations. The ring is made of sterling silver. I have done much study in Proverbs. One of my challenge concepts has been that of silver....the dross must be removed for the value to be realized. My life can so easily have dross...un needed extras ...that pull me from true value in my life. Sin of course makes me unusable and for all of us is a daily battle. But other things...distractions and desires contrary to those of GOD...good things that take my time in ways I want to invest that may not be Gods plan...so much that easily creeps in to keep me from the BEST GOD desires for me. DROSS. I want more than anything to be totally consumed with God's plan for me, not my own. I want to be sterling sliver... strong, pure and polished...shining HIS light before others. The stone of my life story ring is a ruby.(man made but made in the plan GOD created!) I will always cherish the teaching GOD gave me and spoke into my life as I studied that amazing picture God

chose to use in Proverbs 31. The pressure and heat needed to form the stone so resembles how GOD uses trials and tribulations to form my faith and improve my value for Him. The impurities that bring out the variations of color...shades of that unmistakable red gem so reminding me of the impurity of my sin that needed the transforming covering of the blood of Christ to cover them and give me new life and new hope...just a few of the reminders of that amazing picture I want to be the gem stone shining the story of my life before others.

This ring was so meaningful for me this hard week as we once again make the conscious choice and pilgrimage to follow GOD as His disciples. Choosing to carry the cross of sacrifice and painful good byes and loving HIM enough to even sacrifice the love of our family and friends as we follow the road HE has chosen going to the place of HIS calling. The benefits of this decision...amazing peace and joy on the journey! I must keep the dross of sin and self and remind myself of the incredible cost of my salvation...the blood of CHRIST that compels me to share the GOSPEL with the precious people of PNG. The trials and tribulations we will face on the front line of spiritual battle grounds have eternal value and immediate reward as they will strengthen my faith and renew my hope if I will but endure and have victory through Christ when each one comes like a full forced hurricane. WE will find peace in the eye of the storm as we hold our ANCHOR of Christ. I must remember the story of my ring...reminding myself of the teaching it gives me. IT is on my right hand middle finger...in my face!! I pray as people ask about my pretty ring I can share with them, too, of it's meaning in my life. MY life goal...to be more like the virtuous woman who fears the Lord and serves her family and others with excellence. Strong, pure and shining HIS LIGHT illuminating HIM for HIS glory wherever I am!

### Special needs

- 1) 2 Cor 4:16 reminds us that we faint not though our outer man may perish, the inward may is renewed day by day...we are physically spent but spiritually renewed after a week at our Mission Enrichment conference last week. What an amazing way to end our furlough and get charged up for the goal we share with our missionary family at ABWE...the GOSPEL for all people!! THANKS for your prayers for us last week.
- 2) Rachel was offered a teaching position for K-4 which not only gives them an additional pay check but enables Eliana to go to school! This was a special hug from GOD. Please continue to pray for GOD to lead Rachel and Rodney to the perfect church ministry while we praise GOD for His provisions for them along the way!
- 3) Levi continues to get chubbier each time I see him. His eyes continue to grow and develop ,though the progress is slow. Still no dangerous signs so we rejoice and keep praying. His kidney issues should be outgrown and his lungs are improving slowly. HE may have issues with regurgitation of feeds and a bit of gastric reflux. PRAY that if there are issues needed to be addressed they will be clear in the testing coming up!
- 4) Pray for our trip home. The boys are excited and we are in the midst of packing and trying to think of all the details and get done all the last minute tasks before taking off from Rochester NY early Wednesday morning. WE plan to have a few days with Andrew on our way through the West Coast then onward to Australia and

home to PNG. PRAY for good connections, for opportunities to share Christ along the way and for our intern Anna as she will have some time with us to explore missions and see our ministries first hand!

5) Pray for Lori's parents physical needs as we leave...that GOD will provide all the help and encouragement they both need. PRAY for peace for us as we leave them as well.

6) Amo and Aaron get off the plane in PNG and immediately start back into school...PRAY for AMo's needs in reading and Aaron's needs to catch up in his speech and learning development.

7) PRAY For **our family and our hearts as we say goodbye**...and for God's peace to rule our hearts and minds!

*Let my soul beneath her load  
Faint not through the o'erwearied flesh;  
Let me hourly drink afresh  
Love and peace from Thee my God  
\_Richter*

NO restraint, NO retreat, NO regrets!

Bill, Lori and the boys...homeward bound and heavenward focused!!

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