

GIFTS August 24 2014



August 24, 2014 www.billandlorismithpng.com

I think we all LOVE gifts. **Aaron had an amazing birthday party** last weekend. WE had a whole house FULL of kids playing games, winning prizes..it was a hoot. Their faces just radiated with joy as they all got gifts as we celebrated the GIFT of our Aaron to this world and to our family.



I don't know about you, but when I get a gift, I can barely wait to use it...try it on...put it up...make use of it. This week I was reminded daily of the many GIFTS that GOD has given us. Romans 12 talks about the amazing plan of GOD as He calls us to be HIS children He also gives US birthday gifts of His own...gifts He desires we use as we serve Him, our Father in His ministry of growing HIS Kingdom.

IT is always great fun for me to share my love of our amazing medical ministry. As I have been blessed with the gift of compassion, I so readily get the opportunities to utilize that to my hearts full content each week through our clinic. Having **Anna** with us these past weeks to share that passion with was great. After our **Becky** left home I have not really had a "partner in crime" so to say. Someone that enjoys the often gross side of my life.. dealing with wounds and sick people. I love helping so that makes the ugly side of what I have to do seem not so bad, I guess. WE had a great time. She had some really cool experiences that would be difficult to experience in the USA. No shortage of live measles cases here...every abnormal breath sound known to man multiple times daily, malaria, enlarged spleens, many pregnant women in various stages of pregnancy, two live child births (though I may have spoiled her mom's hope for grandkids some day from



Anna..ha!)...cool stuff. It was fun watching Anna grow , too, as missionary life is a very unschedulable “thing”. She watched as we had to flex and change, living our lives for others not our own convenience. A gift fun to share and we trust a blessing to partake in as well.

WE saw the great gift of God’s answered prayers. The little baby boy, **Paku, just 4 months old that went into cardiac arrest in my arms who GOD gave back to us after seemingly endless CPR...is doing great.** HE was discharged from the Hospital this week. His daddy was waiting for us at the village when we got there for our Saturday outreach to give hugs of joy over what GOD had done saving his little boy!

WE also saw an amazing answer to prayer on Thursday. **Sagifa is an amazing location for a mobile clinic** with hopes of a church plant starting there some day. There are six very large villages surrounding that main meeting area. Knowing Lilians family should have prepared me more, but the hardness, dirty life



style both physically and morally and drug and alcohol inundated society there was just honestly shocking and appalling to my heart. Over 90% of the patients that day had nasty bual (bettlenut..a chewed narcotic) dripping from their mouths. They reeked of cigarette smoke so much it nauseated me all day. My heart broke for them. Their warm acceptance of us though...their hearty and easily received and returned hugs...we were accepted as family and they said and demonstrated that very openly . For many, **Thursday was the very first time they had heard the Gospel.** They listened intently and looked at the pictures of the Story of HOPE. WE did over 200 physical assessments and treatments...at least a million (J) sores were treated and dressed, and over 300 measles inoculations given. Needless to say the next day I felt like someone hit my body all over with a bat...but they were lined up at our clinic too, so we saw shy under a 100 here as well. We were all very tired by Friday night, but a mumu (a feast of food cooked over hot rocks under the ground) awaited us so we had that amazing encouragement to make it through!!

I was so glad we worked at the clinic Friday. God brought many with needs that day for sure. One girl, **Karen, came with a dilemma all too common.** She had a baby just one and a half and she feared she was once again pregnant. She wanted the “easy way out”...an abortion. I had the joy of sharing with her how her little baby was being woven and spun by the very GOD of creation. I asked her how she would feel if she gave a very precious gift to someone and they just tore it up in her face, unappreciative and unwanted that sacrifice. I told her that this little one was a gift from GOD...a special designed unique work of art in the process. I PRAY she will make the right choice for her and her baby...life!

Another **man came Friday. HE did not want medicine..just wanted to give a hug.** He was SO sick last week with Malaria...and now with treatment felt amazing. I had the opportunity to remind him how great it felt for that whole body

affecting little parasite to be gone....that is how I felt when Jesus washed my eternal life affecting sin away and gave me new life in Christ! Pray for Justin as he contemplates that and the Gospel tract given!!

Despite having two days of business meetings for our field team, we still had contact with over 700 very sick people this week...some are struggling still with only a little improvement as their illnesses were "held over" and added onto for five months while I was gone. PRAY as medicine works and people see strength return they will be reminded WHO gave them these gifts of medicine. So many of you partner with us to give this picture of FREE love and FREE care as a very evident view of GOD's LOVE and FREE Salvation to the many that come to us in need! What a gift to labor together with you and see GOD work miracles before our very eyes! May those miracles be eternal as HIS WORD will NOT return VOID.

Saturday I had a great time living my dream...ha! "[Rachael Ray in the bush](#)"! WE had a cooking class outreach in the village. It was such a blast..."YUMMO". WE had over 60 adults there by the time we got to the opportunity for Anna to share her testimony of salvation. She was warmly received there these past weeks as we have ministered to the kids each week and this week to a combined group focused on adults. Many tears, a lovely bilum and pleas for her to come back some day to minister among us in PNG. Oh...and they loved the tasting part of the cooking class as well. J

A great week...looking forward with a bit of nervous anticipation to next week. We ladies head up a very nasty, bumpy road to Kerowagi Monday morning. The National Baptist Ladies Conference has been a highlight of my life each year for over a decade now. Friends and students I love coming together from all around the Nation! Getting fed spiritually by my sisters here...fellowshipping...oh ya a bit of frolicking, too...but a time to see GOD work in our lives! If things go as I have been told (they NEVER do..ha) I will have three hours of teaching the entire group each day. GOD has given me some really challenging (to me!) things to share so pray that the women will open their heart and receive God's instruction even if it steps on a few toes here and there. PRAY that amidst the busyness I will have opportunity for one on one encouragement and counselling as GOD gives me ladies to minister to. PRAY for good weather, safety, good health and for GOD to MOVE in our hearts! WE have FIVE ladies from Luscillo (Julie, Lucy (both of Baby Grace's Aunties that come to our church now and have made salvation decisions), Rebecca, Roselyn and Mama F (the cutest little old lady whose name is so hard I can not even try to spell it so thankfully the Holy Spirit KNOWS IT!). PRAY PRAY PRAY!!!!

Please continue to pray:

- 1) **GBBC begins in just ONE WEEK**...pray for students as they travel...for them to COME with SCHOOL FEES in hand...and for GOD to work in the lives of each student, staff and teacher that we all may TRULY be dedicated to serving GOD with our WHOLE hearts!
- 2) PRAY for **BILL as he has the responsibility to get READY for school**

administratively the week his wife takes off and abandons him!! J

3) PRAY for the **GBBC expansion**...we have some initial plans we are working on and boy oh boy is it getting exciting. Possible Land Boards meetings this next month...a PNG architect that seems willing to work with our ABWE guys....wow! PRAY hard as GOD opens these doors. Our enemy is watching and planning an attack I am sure.

4) PRAY for a new **job for Rodney with better hours to do ministry at church, and for Andrew as his school bill is due soon**. WE are so excited how GOD is working and providing for our kids.

5) PRAY for **teachers for NTM's Mk school here next year**. If they don't get some help for next year they may not have an elementary school at all...such a great opportunity to come minister to missionary and national kids!!

6) Pray for **continued unity and a spirit of love on our team as we work together here in PNG** in our varied ministries with the single focus of glorifying GOD!

7) Pray for **Anna as she travels back to the USA**. Pray for her safety. Pray also for her sustained health. She has only a few days at home before leaving for College! She can not afford to get sick!! WE exposed her to a LOT of nasties here...so extra prayer is appreciated!

8) PRAY FOR **LORI this next week as she has the opportunity to minister to the ladies at the National Baptist Ladies Conference**. Pray for safety in travel, good health..a strong voice, and for GOD to work in each of our hearts!!

9) **PRAISE THE LORD FOR RAIN.....pray for roads!**

10) Continue to pray for **our sweet Able**. His daddy still is hard and far from GOD...Israel and Cecelia are no longer going to church...our hearts are bleeding tears!! WE need GOD to intervene for these precious babies!!!!!!

No greater gift can one give than that he lay down his life for his friend. SO thankful for the salvation we have the JOY to share also with others...and for the blessing of living a life as a poured sacrifice for GOD.

Yesterday is only a dream, Tomorrow is only a vision. TODAY WELL LIVED makes our yesterdays dreams of happiness and our tomorrows

Visions of hope. Today is the gift I have to make a difference in this world...that is why it is called PRESENT. May I use it well!

No reserves, No restraints...NO REGRETS!!

Bill, Lori and the boys.ministry of growing HIS Kingdom.

[follow on Twitter](#) | [friend on Facebook](#) | [forward to a friend](#)

Copyright © 2014 ABWE, All rights reserved.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)