

Praise the Lord



Well, it is all over but the shouting....praises that is!

What an amazing conference. We ended up with a really good sized group. BUT numbers are NOT what matters....spiritual fruit was just so very evident as you prayed!!

The different pastors speaking just HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD. This was a topic....the negative influence of many cultural practices on the church and ministry of the church... that was a really hard one for these guys to face. So many times the pastors just turn their eye from these areas if not actively compromise the Truth of God's Word when pressure from their family or the community hits strong. It was a real battle for them, but there was no mincing of words....TRUTH was taught with boldness and open honesty. Issues were discussed in small groups by the men from all different areas and some really concrete answers and ideas in dealing with these daily issues came out! IT was a really practical and valuable time.

THE ladies meeting side of things was incredible beyond words. **TEARS, HUGS, CHEERS**, and I believe refreshed and renewed call to ministry were just evident each day. The greatest blessing though was a total surprise. After one of the sessions on Wednesday, God prompted my heart to give an invitation...for salvation! I know it sounds weird, but GOD knew who was there and the needs and struggles in their hearts. **Four women raised their hands**. One needed help with her struggle in allowing the Holy Spirit to control her, but the other three all needed to make a genuine salvation decision. They were holding onto the name of "Pastor's wife" when they truly needed only ONE name for eternal life...the name of JESUS!! Jesus said that MANY will come to Him on the day of judgment claiming to have done many forms of "ministry" in His name, but HE will send them away as HE NEVER KNEW THEM...scary but reality. What a joy that these ladies choose CHRIST over their fear of shame in living a lie. Each was received with great joy and love by their sisters in CHRIST and we ALL rejoiced!!

The plates and cups were a major blessing. As the ladies carry them home, they will be reminded daily when using these precious gifts that women around the world are HUGGING them in prayer as they work hard in ministry seeking fruit for the KINGDOM in difficult parts of the harvest field.

Our sweet **Matthew and Priscilla were sent home with a huge love offering collected by the Pastors** to replace their Bibles, clothes and money stolen on their way to the conference. They were given back money to make their way to Goroka (miraculous!), but that was all. How cool to see brothers and sister in Christ sacrifice to help them!! THE body of CHRIST at work!!

Graduation is over....people are leaving and our campus feels and sounds

amazingly empty. BUT here at our house we are full of thankfulness.

*We are looking forward to a meal here this afternoon shared with our coworkers whom we are very thankful for. (Although the house is like an inferno with the intense heat outside and the constant use of the oven all day cooking and preparing our Thanksgiving traditional fare!)



*This is the anniversary of our very first date...one that led me to find my soul mate! Much thankfulness there!



*But I guess most precious to our hearts today causing many tears of joy and missing....it is the birthday of our amazing son Andrew. He and our other five children are the greatest gifts GOD has ever given to us and for them all we are grateful beyond words. OUR heart weep as we are so far away from the older four...but we rejoice with an inner peace and gratefulness that each are following the LORD and are in the place HE has for them.

You held the line of battle with us and the battle cries of prayer blasted out over the valley and truly chased our enemy away as GOD had great victory!!

Thanks for your part this week!

May you enjoy a time of your own personal and family thanksgiving on this special Holiday giving honor to our GOD of provision and blessing.

Bill, Lori and the boys.

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