

JIM AND EMI CIVALE — YOUR MISSIONARIES TO SAMOA

Testifying... repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. ACTS 20:21

PRAYER LETTER ~ APRIL 1, 2016

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Samoa! I pray that you are all walking in the power and victory of the Resurrection this month. Please pray that we do the same here in Samoa. It is so easy to slip into a mindset that it depends entirely on us to overcome the struggles that the sin in us and around us presents. Oh that we would see Him in those darker moments! Though we may feel deflated and defeated, may we remember the victory, power, and joy that is ours by grace through faith. It is grace that delivered us from the penalty of sin, that now delivers us in from the power of sin, and that will yet deliver us from sin's very presence.

If I sound preachy this month, it is because I am ministering to myself. My friends, we are facing a trial in the church that involves immorality and is deeply wounding two core families in our church. It is also adversely affecting many others such as those in youth and music ministries, the Bible college members, our preachers-in-training, and the school staff. In short, almost no one is untouched by this sin and its consequences. So I ask again, please pray. Please pray for Emi and me to receive and convey the wisdom and grace needed to encourage true repentance, forgiveness, and reconciliation. Please pray for those directly in sin to cease, abstain, and repent. Please pray for those who are hurt, confused, discouraged, shamed, and/or angry to be touched and led by the Spirit of God. Please pray for the church and its various ministries to rebound.



You know the saying, when it rains, it pours. Well, my gout has resurfaced after a long absence and I got hit with a week-long stomach bug of some sort that had me pretty much house-bound. Praise God that the stomach issues are gone but please pray for the gout to subside as well. April marks the end of our rainy/stormy season and beginning of our milder weather. Let's pray that our spiritual season changes along with the physical one!

Although we have faced some heavy matters over this last month, we have had some uplifting experiences as well. You may recall from our previous prayer letter, we had six come forward and receive Christ as Savior but only five followed in believer's baptism. We are glad to report that the sixth has also identified with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection in being baptized by immersion. We are also grateful for his desire to walk in newness of life and to serve the Lord as a member of Asau Baptist Church. Please pray for Brother Tusitala and the rest of his family as they grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. It has been a joy to have a new family that is active in each service and eagerly attentive to each sermon.

May God bless each one of you. Your prayers, emails, cards, and other words of encouragement mean so much to us. Thank you also for your faithful support.

Your grateful friends,

Jim & Emi Civalé

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