

Testifying...
repentance toward God
and faith toward our
Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 20:21

The Jim Civale Family

Your Missionaries to Samoa

April 25, 2011

Dear Praying Friends,

“What’s this gout about, Lord?” That’s what I prayed (or *whined*) on the first day of two weeks in a recliner with my leg propped up.

As He so often does, our loving Father showed His strength in my weakness. First of all, He began speaking to me in my additional time in prayer and the Word. I hadn’t had nearly enough of that sweet communion and it was exactly what the doctor ordered. Why do I spend so little time in the closet! Why do I just reach in and grab a pair of shoes and run off instead of entering in, resting, and listening to His still small voice? What precious times I spent over the last few weeks with Him, being reminded that I am His and He is mine. While recliner-bound, I also got to read four books that had been on my must-read shelf ever since I came to Asau in 2009. The reading so enriched my understanding of our Father and certain dear truths in His Word.

Then, one day while I sat reading, one of our church members told me he believes the Lord has called him to preach. “Would you be willing to teach me how?” he asked. I suppose if my right foot and left knee had not been in such pain, I would have sprung out of my chair and danced around the room a bit before answering. Tala has already learned to distinguish between expository and topical sermons and is fast developing the art of illustrating messages, too. He now does devotions for the teachers, messages for the youth on Friday, and is preparing to preach on Wednesdays.

Our men continued visitation without me during April with good results, too. They brought one sheep back to the fold who had been out of church for awhile and followed up on several visitors to the church. One woman they spoke to (Nutu, pictured below) later came to see me and received Christ as Savior. She and a young man named To’o were baptized at the conclusion of our Sunrise Service on Resurrection Sunday.

One last thing... On both Sundays of my bout with gout, the Lord strengthened me not only to stand and preach, but also to do my usual aisle-walking during the message. What a great God we serve! He knows when to sit us down and when to stand us up. Isn’t it great to be in His hands!

Thankfully, I am healed and healthy again, but I shall not soon forget the lessons learned at the Savior’s feet, nor neglect my time there.

His and yours truly,

Jim and Emi Civale

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ◆ Tala’s training
- ◆ Nutu and To’o’s discipleship (and our many other new believers)
- ◆ printing and distribution of Samoan Bibles;
- ◆ translation of Bible tracts and hymns into Samoan;
- ◆ launching of our Christian radio station;
- ◆ altar-worker/soul-winner training program;
- ◆ Emi’s preschool;
- ◆ finding a piano player and teacher for the church;
- ◆ our son Joe’s preparations to move to the US for college.



Please pray for **Tala**, his wife **Ana**, and their son, **James**. Tala recently shared that God is calling him to be a preacher of the Gospel.

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Please pray for our newest church members, To’o and Mrs. Nutu, who were added to **Asau Baptist Church** on April 24th.