



Jim & Emi Civale

Missionaries to Samoa

For by grace are ye saved through faith;
and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:
Not of works, lest any man should boast.
Ephesians 2:8-9

Prayer Letter - May 2014



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Sending Church

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Pastor John Leatherman

Support Address & Mission Board

Baptist International
Missions, Inc.
P.O. Box 9215
Chattanooga, TN
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"Wow! You should have seen it! Everywhere you look, people are walking to church with 'our' Bibles in their hands!" This is what one man said as he entered the church on Resurrection Sunday. Similar exclamations echoed as others arrived

You see, the week before we had distributed Samoan Bibles to every family in Asau, according to the number in their household. It blesses me to think how many now own their own copy of the Scriptures for the first time in their lives

We not only distributed Bibles in our village, but also in several others. One that especially excites me is Apolima, a small island of less than 100 people which lies between our island of Savaii and the main island of Upolu. One of church members who is from Apolima asked for enough Bibles for her whole island as she was traveling back to spend the holiday weekend with her parents and extended family there. Several other families who were traveling also brought Bibles to their villages. **What a blessing to see our church members so excited about getting the Word of God to their families and villages.** Please pray for the Holy Spirit to use the Word mightily. Please also pray as we expand our distribution to other villages in the months to come

We also did a lot of pilot testing of our radio station in April. During the week of Resurrection Sunday we went live for five days and nights continuously to test our automation system and to monitor electricity usage, coverage area, etc. I am happy to report that everything is working and running smoothly. **Most of our work from this point forward will be setting up automation logs and recording our own programming.** My youngest son, Salvatore, is coming home for the summer to lead that effort. I would like to say he will be coming to be my assistant but the reality will be the opposite. I imagine there will be a period of about two hours where I know more than he about the system and then I'll be the apprentice for the rest of the summer – and I love it! We will also be training some of our church members to run things after Salvatore returns to school. Your continued prayers for this ministry would be appreciated

The church also completed their bathroom block project in April. One of our men, Tapu Tai, did a great job leading the project and working within a very tight budget. It blesses me to see how the church took this on from beginning to end on their own and how well they did with it.

During the later part of April we had a young couple come for a survey trip (see picture on left) Fiaavae and Rothana had a heart to jump in and help with anything they could – preaching, doing special music, teaching in the school, helping organize the school office and storage room, doing minor repairs and maintenance, etc. They impressed us greatly with their willingness to work and their desire to learn all they could about the language and culture. I pray for God's blessing on their lives as they begin deputation in the months to come

ANNOUNCEMENT

**Emi and I will be in the US for three Sundays in May (the 11th, 18th, and 25th).
If we can be of assistance to any of our supporting churches on one of those Sundays or during one of those weeks, please let us know.**

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