

The Jim Civale Family

Missionaries to Samoa - December 1, 2011

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. Luke 2 :17



Dear Praying Friends,

No words can fully describe the joy I felt when we returned to the village of Asau. We left New Jersey on Monday morning and finally rolled into Asau on Thanksgiving evening, feeling deeply grateful on many levels. After three days of flights and layovers, the final two-hour drive from the wharf seemed interminable. Nonetheless, that ride along the coast that had become so familiar during our first term here excited me, even to the point of temporarily eclipsing my feelings of missing our dear family and friends we left behind. When we arrived, some families from the church were waiting for us with a feast of Samoan food. They even made my favorite dish, “fai’ai fe’e” (octopus in coconut cream).

On Sunday, we enjoyed two very full services and a mighty feast between them (with “fai’ai fe’e” served yet again!). We would ask you to pray for a young man in his twenties who visited both services. He was very attentive to the Word but did not come forward at the invitation. Please also pray for a young man named Silika, the piano player I mentioned in last month’s prayer letter. Silika came to the church while we were away, made a profession of faith, and got baptized and added. Right afterwards, the chief of his extended family visited his family and ordered him back to his former church. Although he wants to continue in our church, he has succumbed under threat of seeing his immediate family banished. Such are the conditions of life in Asau, but God has answered our prayers in the past to overcome such things and we trust Him still.

Please also pray for Carol, Michael, and Joey as they progress in college. Michael and Carol are in their junior years and Joey in his first. We spent our last four days in the US together with them and had a delightful time, even making time for a family photo (see above). Please keep Tory in prayer also as he serves in the ministry here while finishing his homeschooling.

Many exciting things are on the horizon, including the completion and shipping of the Samoan New Testaments (and much important cargo coming with them), and the first K5 graduation of ABC Academy. For your delight, we’ve included a picture of the K5 students below. They officially graduate Dec. 7th.

As the celebration of Christ’s birth approaches, allow me to once again thank the Giver of every good and perfect gift for the gift of His Son and His salvation which I gladly received on Christmas morning of 1996. May He bless you and yours richly all month long and even more in 2012.

Joyfully His and yours,
Jim & Emi Civale (Acts 20:21)



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