

JIM AND EMI CIVALE — YOUR MISSIONARIES TO SAMOA

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

PRAYER LETTER ~ DECEMBER 1, 2016

Dear Friends,

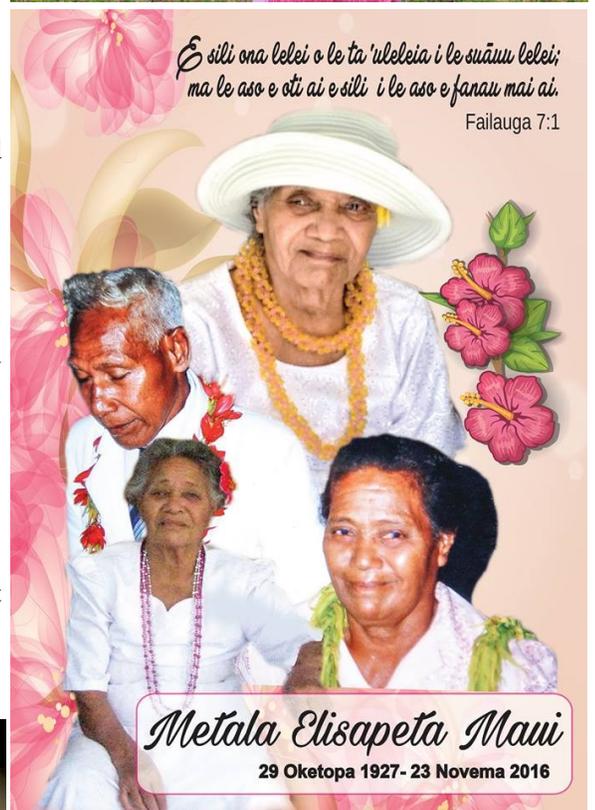
Praise God that we are rooted and grounded in His love, because November has taken us to great heights and great depths.

On November 5th, we were elated to celebrate our granddaughter's first birthday. What joy Millie brings to our lives! The weeks after her birthday are a blur as we were all focused on the end of the school year which culminates with the annual Awards Ceremony and the Kindergarten Graduation. The Lord blessed and we had a full house at both events. As always, we shared the gospel through preaching, singing, and performing. This year's graduation theme was, "E i ai le lagi..." (*There is a Heaven*). The memory verse passage for the graduates was John 14:1-6, so I had a great text to preach. Seeds were certainly sewn. Please pray that they take root.

After the graduation was over and the big clean-up was finished, everyone left and we all went up to the house ready for a quiet evening alone. We had all had a few short nights of sleep and longed for a good full night on our pillows — but none of us would sleep that night. At about 8:00, Emi asked me to sit with her by her mom's bedside and to give my opinion on her appearance. Mom's breathing was labored, her color fading, and her voice faltering. I affirmed to Emi what she already knew — Mom's time was at hand. Emi, Joey, and I were blessed to have the opportunity to thank Mom while she was still with us. Just after midnight, on November 23rd, Metala Elisapeta Maui drew her last breath here and her first one there. Peace very visibly rolled across her face as she made that transition. We thank God that Metala had trusted Christ as Savior in May of 2004. In January of 2010, she was the first person to be baptized and added to Asau Baptist Church. Last week, she was the first one to be promoted to glory.

Metala's funeral gave us great occasion to preach and to share her wonderful testimony with many unsaved family and friends, sewing yet more seeds of the gospel of grace.

Thank you for your love and prayers. *Jim & Emi Civalé*



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