

The Jim Civale Family

Missionaries to Samoa

May 1, 2012

Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD. Pr 18:22



Dear Praying Friends,

As Mother's Day approaches, I am reminded that God has blessed me with a dear wife whose "price is far above rubies" and in whom my "heart doth safely trust." Thank you for keeping Emi in your prayers. Last month her Aunt Lagi, with whom Emi lived for three years while attending Teacher's Training College of Samoa, went home to be with the Lord. Emi has always considered Aunt Lagi to be her second mother. Back in 2000, Emi was burdened for her Aunt Lagi's salvation and made a special trip to witness to her, at which point Emi led Lagi to the Lord. Twelve years later, as Emi knelt beside her dear aunt's casket, she was comforted to know that her Aunt Lagi (or "Mamma" as she called her) was with the Lord. During the funeral service, one of Lagi's daughters invited Emi to give an impromptu eulogy. Praise God, Emi was able to give the gospel to a full church and comfort many with the assurance that Lagi is truly in a better place. I thank God for a godly wife who has a burden for the salvation of souls that has not abated over the years.

Emi also has a burden for the education of souls in Samoa and is doing an excellent job with the Sunday school, preschool, and elementary school ministries of Asau Baptist Church. Just before the last quarter closed, Emi held an open house in which she had the students demonstrate what they have learned from K3 to Grade 1. Friends, you would be truly amazed to hear students who entered the school not knowing a word of English reciting Scripture verses and reading aloud in English with good expression and comprehension.

In the coming months you will begin to hear of plans to build a Sunday School and ABC Academy building in January of 2013. A construction team from Canada and North Carolina is already preparing for the trip. There will be much to pull together over the next eight months, so your concerted prayers for this effort would be most greatly appreciated.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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His and yours truly,
Jim Civale

Sent by Dry Run Independent Baptist Church/ Sent through Baptist International Missions, Inc.

Samoan Culture & Customs

In Samoa, many protocols are observed during funerals (and weddings, bestowals of chiefly titles, building dedications, ordinations of pastors, etc.). At these events, numerous branches of the large, extended families come from far and wide to engage in exchanges of chiefly speeches, fine mats, money, cases of canned fish or corned beef, whole cooked pigs, cows, etc. The talking chief on the right is presenting fine mats and money to the grieving family on the left whose talking chief responds with formal speeches and many gifts. These exchanges usually last for two to three days.

