



The Bible was first translated into Samoan in the mid 1800's by the London Missionary Society (LMS) at this site in the village of Avao (45 km from Asau). Today, the LMS churches use a newer translation from the 1960's. It will be our honor to transcribe, preserve, print, and distribute the original Samoan Bible.

The Jim Civile Family

Missionaries to Samoa

July 1, 2012

Forever, O LORD, they word is settled in heaven. Psalm 119:89
Ieova e, ua mausali lau afioga i le lagi e faavavau lava. Salamo 119:89

Dear Praying Friends,

Thank you for the birthday wishes, cards, prayers, and blessings last month -- both for me and for our son Salvatore. God has given us another year of life and many dear family and friends who are a part of it. We have too many wonderful things going on in the ministry right now to squeeze it all into this letter, but let me try.

CHURCH GROWTH: We saw six more people baptized and added to the church in June and another village chief has been visiting for awhile and watching. Please pray for him to receive Christ and to be baptized and added to *Asau Baptist Church*. We also had one of our deacons share that he believes the Lord has called him to be a preacher. Finally, we appointed a deacon candidate who will serve for six months in that status before being ordained and joining the other four deacons. I thank God for all of these signs of growth in *Asau Baptist Church* and am privileged to be a part of it along with each of you who pray for and provide for us to be here.

ABC EDUCATIONAL BUILDING PROJECT: We are continuing to prepare for our groundbreaking in December of this year. Our local believers here have remained faithful in their joyful giving and we thank God for their zeal. This project was highlighted in our last prayer letter and your continued prayers for God's provision are requested. The building will serve as much-needed Sunday school, day school, and Bible college classrooms.

SAMOA BIBLE PROJECT: As you know, in May, we received, blessed, and began distributing our Samoan New Testaments. Thank you again to all who helped bring that to pass! This was a big first step in meeting the need for our people to have Bibles (based on the preserved texts) available to them in their own language. Just having the New Testaments alone has already made a profound difference in our teaching and preaching! This motivated us to move forward with the typing of the entire Samoan Bible to prepare for its printing and distribution. About six weeks ago, I sent everyone on our prayer letter list an invitation to join a team of typists to transcribe the Samoan Bible into computer files. What a tremendous response we had! Fifty-one people are now working together typing in different books or sections. People from Russia, Australia, Canada, Samoa, American Samoa, Hawaii, Fiji, Japan, and the continental U.S. (TX, AZ, NJ, PA, GA, TN, VA, MD, and OH) are typing from scanned copies of the old Samoan Bible. We had anticipated the keyboarding phase to take six months but it looks like it will take only two. We had anticipated another six months for the proofreading and editing phase and then another six for the typesetting and printing phase. It thrills me to know that we can reduce the time it will take to get the entire Samoan Bible into our people's hands. It is also exciting to know that we will finally have a digitalized version of the Samoan Scriptures for computer software applications and research tools. *We can still use help on this project.* We need lots of proofreaders (and a few more typists). You do not need to know Samoan to help -- just a careful eye, a heart for the Lord, and patience. Email me at civalejim@yahoo.com if you'd like more information. We would love to have as many people as possible helping us avoid making even one small typographical error in transcribing the Word of God.

Well, our space is up. Some other exciting things such as an upcoming tract month, progress on our radio station, Emi's work with the ABC Academy students, and our Bible college plans will need to wait for another time.

His and yours truly, **Jim & Emi Civile (Acts 20:21)**

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