

# The Civale Family Prayer Letter

APRIL 1, 2013

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

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Dear Praying Friends,

We spent about as many days *in* Asau as we did *away from* Asau last month – and the Lord blessed every minute and every mile!

At **Asau Baptist Church**, we baptized and added five new church members on the first Sunday of March. Later that day, I flew across the dateline to visit American Samoa for a second Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. As always, it was a joy to visit our first church plant and to preach to the dear people of **Vai o le Ola Baptist Church**. Praise God for a young man whom Pastor Scot Daku led to the Lord during the altar call.

Two days later I traveled back to Samoa to stay with missionary friends to continue working on the Samoa Bible Project. While there, I preached for Pastor Peneueta Faafouina at **Lighthouse Baptist Church** in the village of Vaitele-Fou. Praise God for a sweet couple who came forward at the altar call and placed their faith in Christ as Savior. Later in the month, they were baptized and added to the church there. There is a lovely twist to this story. The wife in this couple was born and raised in Asau and some in her family opposed opening Asau village to allow the Baptist church in back in 2010. Three years later, members of that same family are becoming Baptists! Hallelujah! This story gets even more exciting. She brought her sister to the church the next week who also got saved and they are eager to reach out to other family members with the gospel.

While I was traveling, our two preachers-in-training back in Asau did a great job preaching and conducting services. Tumanuvao preached and extended an altar call and many responded. Sopo was alert to see a young man come forward for salvation and he took him to our counseling room and led him to the Lord. Seeing these two men grow and seeing the Lord use them truly blesses and encourages me. As I prepare for a furlough later this year, I am grateful for men who will continue the work in our absence.

Friends, I served many years in a slow-growth situation where we did not see people saved, baptized, and added for months on end and where we did not see men surrender to preach. All I can say is that God is so very gracious to save souls in Samoa, to call Samoan men to preach the gospel, and to allow us to be used in the process. What a God we serve! Thank you so much for praying for Emi and me and the people of Samoa. Keep it up!

Please pray this month...

- ✠ For the successful completion of this final phase of the Samoa Bible Project (*we are getting closer every week to having a final typeset document ready for me to bring up to the printer in June*).
- ✠ For a missions team and another missionary coming out for a survey trip next month.
- ✠ For progress in finalizing and shipping out our radio station equipment order.
- ✠ For our summer/fall furlough (please email us if you'd like us to report in)
- ✠ For Sopo and Tumanuvao, our two preachers-in-training, who are assuming more and more responsibilities and will lead in my absence later this year.

Yours and His truly,

*Jim & Emi Civale*

## March Baptisms



Bro. & Mrs. Ropati Tumanuvao



Bro. & Mrs. Tapu Tai



Miss Lina