



JIM & EMI CIVALE

MISSIONARIES TO THE SAMOAN ISLANDS

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



April 26, 2018

Dear friends,

One of these days, I suppose, we will write about a “normal” month of ministry, but that certainly does not describe this month, or the last one, or the one before that. In fact, I cannot recall such a month in a very long time.

Earlier in April, we went over to American Samoa where I had the chance to preach at our first church and lay the groundwork for Bible distribution plans over there once our next container arrives later this year. We also brainstormed approaches to the starting of a Samoan-speaking branch of the church there (which is currently an English-speaking, international church). It was great to see their enthusiasm about things to come and to be back with some of the old, faithful members who were as hospitable and dependable as ever.

Later in the month, we hosted a terrific team from Grace Baptist Church in Plymouth, Indiana. Pastor Matt Elliott, his lovely wife Beth, and five high schoolers spent a week with us ministering in the church and school. Pastor Matt preached some great messages and was good about getting me notes ahead of time that really facilitated the interpreting. He had full altars at each invitation and led a great men’s meeting at which our men asked some really good questions. He also helped me personally to mainstream our school administrative tasks through the use of Excel spreadsheets. I told him repeatedly that I felt like he was moving us light years ahead of where we had been. Mrs. Beth and two of the teens also helped catch us up on a ton of student file and transcript work. I loved having a pastor and wife who, like Emi and I, run an active school ministry. The teens did a great job, too, speaking at special chapel services each day and conducting activities with each of our classes throughout the week. One of the greatest highlights of the month was seeing our newly-ordained assistant pastor conduct his first baptism. In last month’s letter, I mentioned how Brother Sopo led Atonio and Toveaga to the Lord. Well, this month he baptized Atonio. We extended the honor of baptizing Toveaga to Pastor Matt who did so in my stead. They both did a great job!



Asst. Pastor Sopo baptizing Atonio (above) & Pastor Elliott baptizing Tovaega (below)



Ace, Caleb, Jarod, Jarryn, and Brianna teaching the frog song



Next month promises to defy normalcy, too, as we will be hosting a young lady from Australia for several weeks who is praying about returning in July for long-term service in the school. Please pray for her visit and for our desperate need for teachers in the school. The many other demands on my time prevent me from being much help to Emi in the school. This has her working endless hours as she is so short-staffed this year. She and the teachers continue to do amazing things but they need help. Please not only pray, but also direct anyone who might be interested to a tab on our website (jimcivale.edifyhub.com) called “Extra Mile Missionary Teacher.”

Thank you and God bless you!

- *Jim & Emi*

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