

the EIBEN FAMILY

Missionaries to Pohnpei, Micronesia

Gabriel • Susan • Benjamin

Broadcasting the Good News in the regions beyond



Children's Church kids at Calvary receiving New Testaments!

"Hear the word of the LORD, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off..." - Jeremiah 31:10

GETTING PERSONAL – From the pen of Missionary Gabriel Eiben

Jesus said "... Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Mat 22:39

The Baptist Radio sits on a rocky bluff that overlooks the main town of Kolonia, Pohnpei. With the island being one of the wettest places on earth, drainage becomes a real problem. There are two drainage ditches on the property, one along the front and a canal made by the Japanese during WWII that crosses the back. In order to keep the station property from becoming a giant swamp, these ditches must be kept clear.

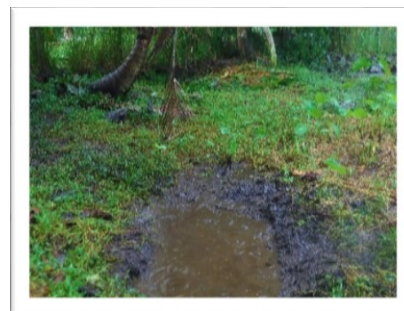
At the west end of the property, on the other side of the fence, our neighbors have erected several pens housing more than a dozen pigs. When these creatures finish relieving themselves, our neighbors kindly wash the excrement off the bare cement pads, through the fence, onto the station property and into our drainage ditch. Over time, this along with other sediment has served to provide ample fertilizer for vegetation which has choked out the ditch, creating a huge slough of lazily draining disgusting muck.

With the station property quickly becoming a quagmire, I realized that the only way to remedy the situation was to get into the ditch myself and start digging. Beginning at the low end of the property, I commenced shoveling out the filth one section at a time. The further I got, the worse the stench of sewage became. As I dug my way past the neighbor's house, the offensive odor suddenly dissipated. It was then that I noticed the open sewage pipes jutting out of the side of their home, aimed towards our drainage ditch. Now digging pig poo is one thing..., but this was quite a different matter. Furious and with clenched teeth, I said "Lord, I'll do this because I love you. But I sure don't love them!" "How could people be so inconsiderate?" I thought. At one point, the neighbors even had the nerve to come out and tell me how good the ditch looked! "Oh Lord help me please!"

After a couple weeks of continuous work, I finished the 350' ditch and cleared out the pig slough at the west end, then dug another 50' to connect the back canal with the front ditch to improve the overall drainage. With all this finally done, I was ready for a break ... when our station toilets began to back up. "Ugh! Why me?" I thought. I poured chemicals and plunged profusely, but to no avail. It became evident that in order to clear the clog, I would have to open up the sewage line. Before I knew it, I was up past my elbows in raw filth. At one point the line pressurized and sprayed me in the face. Thankfully my mouth was not open! As the fury in me approached the boiling point, God kindly reminded me that though my neighbor's sewage was quite nasty, mine was far more disgusting. Of course, the spiritual application was not lost on me. I asked God to forgive me for the vile things that only He can see, things like wrong attitudes, pride, anger, and judgement. I also asked Him to help me to love my neighbors as myself, especially since they don't yet know His forgiveness. Friend, can I get personal with you and ask, what kind of neighbors do you have? What faults do you readily see in them that you willingly overlook in yourself? God wants us to love our neighbors regardless, and He will help us to love them if we ask Him to.



Station repairs, rain or shine!



Blocked Before,



Flowing After!

Our Address: Baptist Radio, P.O. Box H, Pohnpei, FM 96941 **Skype:** 704-751-5001 **Email:** eibens2pohnpei@wwntbm.com
Sending Church: Maranatha Baptist Church, 413 Polkville Rd., Shelby, NC 28150 (704) 284-0158
Mission Agency: WWNTBM, P.O. Box 725, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 (704) 730-1440