

THE CANNONS

MISSIONARIES TO MICRONESIA

II TIM. 2:2 “. . . THE SAME COMMIT TO FAITHFUL MEN WHO SHALL BE ABLE TO TEACH OTHERS ALSO.”

CANNON PRAYER LETTER
MARCH 2002

Dear Friends and Co-laborers in Christ:

Greetings from the beautiful island of Yap. Jeremiah 33:3 says: "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not". God says to call (pray) and He will answer. In the past few months we have seen many answers to our prayers and many more people to pray for. Our Christmas service was simply unbelievable. We had one hundred five people attend. Many of these were new visitors. This included thirty-seven adults and twenty teens. Everyone heard a clear presentation of the Gospel by Bob Whitmore. We had the gospel presented in song and Bible reading by our teens.

Our youth group lost all of its leadership last year when they went to Harvest Baptist Bible Institute in Guam. The Lord has blessed and we are beginning to see both numerical and spiritual growth in our youth group. Almost one third of our teens are from the outer islands of Yap State. This is a real blessing because we have been praying for an open door on the islands. We have been blessed to have a few adults from the islands coming to church as well. Thank you for your faithful prayers for our dear people. Our Lord Jesus Christ is hearing and answering your prayers in His time and way. We are beginning to have some "good problems". We have twenty-six young people in our youth group. Our average attendance on Sundays is fifteen. If all of the young people come at one time they will not fit into our current classroom. While we are due to lose three or four of these teens to the new church Paul Zimmer will be starting in the North, we will still have the potential for a full class room each week.

One of the simply great things that our Lord Jesus Christ is doing is with our Chinese. God has promised that His word will not return unto Him void, but that it will accomplish that which I (God) please. (Isaiah 55:11) We have a tract rack on the outside of the church at the front door. We try to keep it filled with all types of tracts and Bible literature. Lately, it has been impossible to keep it full. These workers come over to the church property after work, some times as late as midnight and pick up the tracts. On their few days off they are around the church and reading the tracts. The Bible study books or devotionals always disappear quickly. We have had a few Chinese visit our church, but they know so little English and are so afraid that they will be fined for attending. One Chinese lady came Sunday morning early before Sunday School. Carolyn invited her in and gave her a Bible. When she told the young lady, who knew a little English that she could keep the Bible she almost cried for joy. Satan keeps fighting us in little ways! During Chinese New Year (February 12) the factory workers were off three nights. One of these nights they did not have anything to do. We decided to show a video about Jesus to them. We used Paul Zimmer's big screen projector. Five minutes into the video the picture went bad so we cleaned the tape and changed VCR's. This did not work so we cleaned the head and changed videos with the same results. By the time we got all this done the Chinese left. Please keep praying for our Chinese. We are sure that there are a few Christians in the group. If you know where we can get some simple Bible Stories or lessons in Mandrin Chinese please let me know.

What do Carolyn and I, along with the Zimmers and Whitmores, need most? We need your prayers that we will have wisdom and that our people will have tender, teachable hearts. Also, please pray that we will be able to have a baptism soon. Every time I have tried to schedule it, I have had to have foot surgery to remove a cyst from my toe. So far I have had two operations and may need a third. Thank you for your faithful prayers and support! Without them none of these blessings would be happening!

Faithfully yours,
Joe Cannon

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