



Trip to Ulithi

I know it has only been a few weeks since we last sent out an update, but we have had an exciting few weeks and want to tell you about it. A few weeks ago we learned about an opportunity we would possibly have to visit the outer island of Yap called Ulithi. This is one of the islands that was hit hard by super-typhoon Maysak back in March of this year. Paul Zimmer (our co-worker) has started a non-profit organization called [Pacific HELPS](#) designed to help the islands with projects such as solar and clean water. Ultimately the goal is to meet people's physical needs as a way to open the doors to minister to their spiritual needs. Pacific Helps is planning to put in solar panels and a water filter to help the island both on a daily basis, as well as in the event of a future typhoon. In preparation for this project, they asked us to travel to Ulithi to video the island and produce a short promotional video about the needs of the island.

When we first heard about the opportunity to go to Ulithi, we thought that the trip would have to wait until sometime in November, but through God's clear and speedy working, just three days after first hearing about the trip we were on the plane. We flew on a small plane run by Pacific Missionary Aviation and really enjoyed being on a flight where the pilot led in prayer before taking off.

When we arrived, the devastation from the typhoon was clearly evident. Seven months later, many of the buildings still do not have roofs. Many people have pieced together what could only be described as a shack, while they wait on emergency funding so they can build a more permanent house. Many of the coconut trees were destroyed, and the banana trees are just starting to grow back but are not yet producing bananas.

For two days, we walked around the small island taking videos of the devastated, yet still beautiful, island. In the process of doing the video we were able to interview one of the island chiefs. Chief Philip kindly welcomed us to his home, and invited us to come back to his island any time.

The highlight of our trip, however, was meeting a family of fellow believers. James and Masency have graduated from Bible College and moved to James' home island of Ulithi. They are striving to win the people of Ulithi to the Lord. It was a blessing to walk up to

their house and introduce ourselves and instantly have a bond in Christ. As we sat around in their small cooking pavilion, we were able to encourage each other in the Word and also in song.

The island is predominately Catholic and has been very closed to the gospel. Even though Micronesia has freedom of religion, the traditional leaders of this island have told James he may not teach the Bible in his public school class room, and do not want him to start a church. However, he has been able to start having a Bible study on Sundays with about 15 people in attendance. Most of this group do not yet know Christ as their Savior. Mesency has also been able to have some good talks with one of their neighbors who is asking some deep questions about the Bible. Please pray for this couple and their two young children as they live their lives for the glory of God on Ulithi, without any spiritual fellowship.

Thank you for your continued prayers,
Nathan & Hannah

Praises

- A Safe Trip to Ulithi
- Great Fellowship with James and Masency

Prayer

- James and Masency to have open doors to share the gospel
- More opportunities for us to minister physically and spiritually to the outer islands of Yap.
- Wisdom for Nathan in preaching while Pastor Paul is traveling.





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