

December 2012

Dear precious friends and prayer partners,

We are so very thankful for the blessing of being able to report to you, and send greetings in this season from the island of Guam. It is all because of the One that we celebrate, His birth, and your prayers and support that this is possible. We want to sincerely thank you for the blessing of serving the Virgin Born Son of God with you in this harvest field.

As we look back over the last year, it seems like it was just a month or so ago. Yet, we have seen many folks and many places in the past year. For the first time in many years, we were able to report to all of you who support this ministry. What a blessing to see you still standing for the Old Book and faithfully serving our Lord! We also got to meet some new folks and some that we have not seen for many years. Of course, another great blessing was that we got to see and spend some time with our family.

Thanks to a faithful friend and the good grace of God, we were able to purchase a small house in the city of Greenville, SC. For the first time in many years, we were able to invite our family and friends over for a meal and actually sit down at the table together. It was a blessing to see our children, grandchildren, brothers, and sisters. For the first time in several years, we were able to enjoy the sweet fellowship of our mission family during the Family Week this year. We thank God for the undeserved blessing of serving with some of the best friends on the face of God's Earth.

We want to thank all of you who have so generously supported this ministry. Thanks to you, God has provided above what we could ask or think.

It is very humbling to us, and we are so very thankful that the Lord our God has allowed us to start another term on this island. He has not only placed a precious family in leadership at Lighthouse Baptist Church, but has also called a family to serve with us here in the village of Merizo, Guam. Please pray for the Henderson family as they get started on the deputation trail. We look forward with excitement to the day they will begin the work here.

The Lord has provided a house that is exactly what we needed to start the work here. We have been having services since the second Sunday here. The attendance is often Ma and I. She actually takes notes too! We have been blessed to have two little maidens (2Ki. 5) to attend some of the services. We have met their parents and are still developing a relationship with them. As we anticipated, most of the folks here are deeply committed to the Roman religion. Please pray with us that we can be used of the Lord to reach the precious folks for Jesus Christ. One old acquaintance that was pretty hostile over the Gospel vs. his religion invited me in, and we talked for about one hour. He wants me to go fishing with him. I do not know if it will happen or not, but I thank God for his openness. I long and pray that I can see this man saved. He is about my age.

Folks, we could go on and on sharing blessings. For now, we hope that the Lord will bless you with a wonderful time of remembering our Lord's birth, and that He will grant you a healthy and spiritually prosperous 2013. God, please richly bless our dear friends.

Because of Christ,

*Elwood and Doris Hurst*