

ELWOOD AND DORIS HURST

WORLD WIDE NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST MISSIONS

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Dear Precious Friends and Lifeline Holders,

I thank our dear Lord for allowing us to communicate with you once again. I pray that you are enjoying the very best of our Lord's blessings.

I want to update you on our status and events. I wish that I could report a church was planted, or many souls were saved. I cannot do that due to our status, but I can say that God is good and has given grace and strength to handle the situation in which we find ourselves. As for Doris, she is still holding her own in physical health. However, the Alzheimer's issue is slowly but surely becoming much more pronounced. The medical folks tried once again to enroll her into hospice status, but her physical condition (which is the insurance standard) does not allow the change. We have the morning lady we hired and pay for, and the medical folks have a nurse come by about once a week. A physical therapist comes once a week. This is just to sustain what strength we can to facilitate handling her easier.

As for the other cripple, I still have a broken neck. The orthopedic doctor decided that he could not access the broken vertebrae to put a screw in it. Usually, they go in through the front of the neck, but it is not possible to reach the right angle to the vertebrae because of my configuration. To do it the surgical way would require the involvement of some muscles, etc., which has more negative effects than leaving the vertebrae broken. I am thankful that there is not much pain. I wear a brace off and on as needed, and I can take care of my caretaking duties and even some yard work. I just have a click or a thump occasionally, and I need to be careful that I don't go to the next step in that damage. I thank God for His mercy and grace that sustains me physically.

Every day we are reminded that we serve a good and powerful God. Every day we thank Him for you folks who allow us to survive our situation. Though we are very thankful for all the help and a measure of health, my old heart still longs to be out and doing what we were doing when Alzheimer's set in and brought us home. Sometimes, I am convicted because I know that my responsibility is to care for my wife, but my heart is still back on the mission field. What God wants is what I want, and I believe that is what I am doing. Before God takes me home, I pray I can once again have the opportunity to get back in the field. I am so humbled and so very thankful for your patience with us. I am in a situation that does not allow me to earn an income from other sources. We are so blessed and thankful for your faithful stand with us, and we thank God every day for you and ask Him to bless your labor for Him.

Since our last letter, we have been blessed to have some short fellowship with two dear missionary families here. The Henderson family came by a day before they returned from furlough to the Merizo work in Guam. We were blessed greatly by their good report of what God is doing in Merizo, where we were told a Baptist church could not be started. They report that since arriving back in Guam souls have been saved and the number of attendees has increased. GOD CAN! We were also blessed to see Brother and Sister King and hear from Lighthouse Baptist Church. Covid has caused them some challenges. In fact, the whole island of Guam has been under a good amount of stress. Also, as the pattern goes, there have been some who left the island. I know how that feels. One summer when we were there, we had 25 folks leave. It is a blessing to have the temporary folks, but it keeps us training and changing workers and leaders. I thank the Lord that we have the blessing of reaching and ministering to them.

Again, thank you all for your patience with us and your faithful prayers and support. We promise that you are in our prayers. God bless you as you labor faithfully in your vineyard.

Because of Christ,

Elwood and Doris Hurst