

# THE JOEL FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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**Dear Praying Friends,**

A belated **Happy New Year** to all of you. Trust that all is well with you and your families. We are thankful for many things as we look back. Our small family has come through with good health both physically and spiritually, **Praise the Lord!!!** My wife decided to stay out of teaching this year and do home schooling for our teenage daughter, who has a learning problem in regular classrooms. Now she also has more time to be a homemaker, a house wife, and prayer warrior. Our daughters were going through the internet and they made contact with our prodigal son, Augustine. He is in the US Army and stationed in Georgia with his wife and one-year old daughter.

**Please pray** for my nephew Bruce Welles as he took over the high school Bible study ministry. We also praised the Lord for giving us another opportunity to start another year with our prison ministry. I called the jail and the officer told me that an incident had occurred, involving inmates and visitors, which had forced them to stop all social gatherings and visitation. I told him that we never had any problem with our Bible studies. At that point, he advised me to call the Police Commissioner. When I called him and asked him about continuing our Bible study in the new year, he immediately assured us that he will personally make sure we get approved. He said that the Bible is the solution to all problems, especially at the jail.

We are looking forward to a week of revival services in March. We will start cottage prayer meetings for the revival and two of our sister churches will also be holding revival services. Ambassador Baptist church will start theirs on February 12 and Capital Hill Baptist church will be in April. **Pray for** one of our ethnic groups, the **Nukuorans**. More and more of them are attending our services and getting saved. **Pray for** Pastor Ray as he works with them. Ray and I are planning a discipleship ministry with them. The Bible study that I teach on Monday nights is for mature believers, not for growing babes.

For the past four weeks, we had a rash of funerals among our people. Three of the deceased were close relatives. Seemed like every sermon that month revolved around the topic of Death. One of the deaths involved an auto accident that killed my nephew's fiancé instantly. He was hospitalized with a head concussion. When Pastor Clayton and I went to visit him at the hospital, he listened attentively to the gospel message and admitted his need of salvation and said he will think about it. **Pray** as I do follow up on him.

**Please pray** for this month's revival as we have also scheduled the visiting evangelist to preach to our high school students. Pray that many will be saved and realize the need to take a separated stand. About 75 to 80 percent of our student body are from unsaved homes. Some of the parents have allowed their children to attend our Children's Bible Club on Wednesday nights.

Thank You for being a real part of our ministry for **twenty nine years** now. May the Lord richly and abundantly bless each of you, your families, and churches.

*Titus 1:9*

*"From our micro-nesian island to your BIG island, we send our love and best wishes...."*