



The Mark Zimmer Family

Serving in Yap, Micronesia

October-December 2005

**Mark~Diane
Cherith~Caleb
JohnMark~Joseph**

***"For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given . . .
And His name shall be called,
Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God,
the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6***

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Merry Christmas from Yap!!! As we celebrate our Saviour's birth, we praise Him for His protection and faithfulness throughout our first year here in Yap. It is hard to believe that as of December 8th we have lived in Yap for one year! Although the Christmas season has brought much joy and excitement in our home, the people of Yap do not share our joy. When we asked one of our teens what kind of Christmas traditions the Yapese have, she responded, "Getting drunk and fighting!" We are truly burdened for our Yapese friends that they would come to know the true reason for the season.

There is great sadness in our village tonight as one of the young fathers died suddenly, leaving his wife, Priscilla, and their five children. We have had the opportunity to get to know Priscilla some as we buy from their store occasionally. Please pray that the Lord will give us a chance to minister to this family and see them come to know the Prince of Peace.

October

In October we celebrated two birthdays: Diane on the 29th and Cherith turned 4 on the 5th. Mom made Cherith a princess cake and I took Diane to a nice restaurant in town for dinner.



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We were privileged to have another team from Harvest Baptist Ministries in Guam stay with us for four days, and we were able to get a great deal of work done on Bob's house during this time. We saw the Lord's protection first hand as we had a tire explode while we were driving and also as the boat capsized with my brother Paul and two others in it. They had to swim for nearly three hours, but the Lord kept the sharks away and they had energy to make it to safety. Later, a boat with 4 Yapese men arrived and they were able to recover the boat, as well as all of their belongings! God is so good!



The Harvest Team and our family and Paul's family at a local restaurant . . . Team in front of Bob's house.

November

In November we saw an increase in teen attendance for teen meeting on Thursday nights. Our assistant pastor has been quizzing the teens on one chapter from John each week. He has divided the teens into teams and also challenged the teens to memorize the chapter they are studying in John. To our surprise one young adult guy stood up and quoted John 2 from memory! Another one of the teen girls has been a real testimony to her mom and her mom started coming to church in October. After a Bible study at her home in November, this lady named Regina asked Jesus to save her from her sins! Pray that she will be able to stand against the temptations that Satan brings her way. In January, Diane will be starting a ladies' Bible study to encourage these new Christians as well as strengthen others.



We had a baby dedication for a Filipino couple who are members of the church. The family invited a large group of their Filipino friends and we attended a special meal after the service.





Loui and Mirricci with their daughters, Amie and Baby Angel.

December

In December I began to build a small workshop/garage area in our back yard which will be used for construction tools and wood working projects. We will also use the area for storage and possibly Sunday School classrooms. Roland, Derek and some of our young adult guys have helped to speed this project along. Romeo, pictured below, has been coming faithfully to church and I have been burdened to see him go on for the Lord. Last week I took him mackerel fishing, which was the 1st time he had ever fished with a fishing pole since he usually uses a spear! He had a great time! The Lord also opened a door for me to go visit his dad who is suffering with a skin infection. I was able to give him some iodine and gauze bandages and Romeo said that his dad wants to come to church when his ankles heal. Praise the Lord!



In September, Diane and I began praying that the Lord would allow just one Yapese family to start coming to church. Since then, the Lord has more than answered our prayer. He has blessed abundantly as we have seen several new Yapese families coming to church and new visitors come each week! This past week Diane won the record of having 27 people in her van!! Good thing there are no seatbelt laws in Yap!!!

Please pray for our church as we have our Christmas program coming up on Christmas Day. Our ukulele choir has been practicing many new songs, and we will have special Scripture readings in Yapese, Filipino, Outer Island, and English. The children have prepared a special presentation as well. Roland will be bringing the gospel challenge since I will be attending my brother's wedding in Chicago. Please pray for my family as I will be gone for 2 weeks.

Thank you for your prayers and faithful support. We would love to hear from you this Christmas and we enjoy your family pictures that we display on our refrigerator! Our family wishes you a very Merry Christmas!

Yours for Yap,

Mark and Diane
Joseph, JohnMark, Cherith, and Caleb

