

# Mark Zimmer Update

## Aug/Sept 2006

Dear Friends,

### **A Time to Rejoice**

In July we were privileged to speak at Guahan Christian Camp in Guam for two weeks. We had a great time, and we saw the Lord working in the lives of the campers. Our children had a wonderful time with their Guam friends, and Diane and I had a blessed time of fellowship with our dear friends there too. On our return flight we had a three hour layover in Palau. We loved visiting with my brother John and his family, seeing his home, and meeting some of the people he is ministering to.

In early August, we also had the privilege of seeing 4 of our teens head off to college at Harvest Baptist Bible Institute. We have heard back from them and they have already started their studies. They are thankful to be there but they miss some of their local foods such as Taro, Breadfruit, and the short grain rice we get here in Yap! From time to time we are able to send them some of these foods with people that are going that way. Diane tries to stick in some homemade chocolate chip cookies to lighten their load! Please pray for Lucy, James, Romeo and Regina (not pictured).

When we came back from Guam we found out that the Filipinos at our church had been practicing their singing!! We have enjoyed hearing them sing several times in church and our favorite was hearing them sing "Count Your Many Blessings" in their language. This is true testimony for many of them as recently two of the men lost their brother to a stroke, and Letty (in the pink flowered dress) is currently in the Philippines receiving treatment on a goiter.

Not only is the fall season school-starting time, but it is birthday time for many in our family! JohnMark turned 7 on August 9th and coaxed Mom into making him a SpongeBob cake, and Joseph turned 9 on September 4th and Diane managed to drag herself out of bed to make him a spider cake!

### **A Time to Work**

In August we were busy doing some building projects and remodeling at the church. We started kitchen cabinets for Bob and Polly Whitmore, and Roland and I were able to finish out 3 wall units including one corner cabinet. We used a local wood named breadfruit.

We also remodeled the church bathroom and put some tile in the shower as well as on the floor. We built a vanity and medicine cabinet and removed the old and decaying moldings on the floor.

We finished our study in Colossians in our morning worship service, and now I am going through the Bible and doing an overview of each book of the Bible. In a couple of weeks during the Sunday School time, we will start an adult Bible study using Jerry Bridges book Trusting God Even When Life Hurts. So many in our church are going through some difficult times, including ourselves, and we are looking forward to how the Lord will use this study in all of our lives.

### **Fishing for Men**

We were able to go fishing with some of our local friends, and God used these contacts to allow us to talk to them about Christ. Our neighbor, Klava, a Kosraean, was able to go with us and while we were out night fishing he asked me if I had ever heard the song "Happiness is the Lord." I told him I knew the song and Roland and I started singing the words. We heard him joining in once in a while and our voices echoed across the channel in the night. He mentioned that he might join us for our Bible study. Please pray for him that he would see Jesus in our lives.

Another friend that we have mentioned in earlier updates came to church this past Sunday after our continual contact with him and his family. He is a fisherman by trade and very respected for his ability to catch huge game fish. His name is Art, and we are praying that God would use our relationship for His kingdom purposes.

## **A Time to Mourn**

As we mentioned in our recent update, our hearts are grieving for the loss of our little baby that was still in Diane's womb. He was a little over 3 months old when he passed away. We are confident that our Sovereign Lord will use this event for His purpose and our good. Please pray for continued physical healing for Diane and strength for the rest of the family. She is doing much better, but still weak at times. She wants to thank the more than 200 of you who wrote to encourage her during this time. We truly felt the Lord's hand over and around us as you lifted us up in prayer.

We have been so blessed to have Clara Yirimyad, a recent graduate of HBBI return to Yap. She has been helping Diane with her housework and her teaching obligations at church through this time. She has an excellent spirit and a wonderful testimony and has been a huge encouragement to Diane. Providentially, she needs to be here for a time while she prepares to go on for further education. We thank God for the blessing and the help she has been to Diane.

### **Prayer Requests:**

Please pray for Cherith, our little girl. She broke her collar bone last week while playing tag with her brothers. She is recovering well, but it is hard to keep her down! Diane caught her in tree a couple of days ago and Cherith said, "It's okay Mommy, I'm only using one hand!" That was not much consolation for Diane!

My wallet was stolen out of the van on Saturday. Please pray that we will find it soon.

HBBI students, James, Romeo, Lucy and Regina.

Please pray for some of our friends here that are in desperate need of a Savior but they are blinded by the cares of this world.

"He hath made everything beautiful in His time...And whatsoever God doeth, it will be forever: nothing can be put to it, nor anything taken from it: and God does it so that men will fear before Him.

In His Care,

Mark, Diane, and kids