



Lewis and Judy's Labours of Joy

August 2023

*Yet I will rejoice in the LORD,
I will joy in the God of my salvation.
Habakkuk 3:18*

Translating Scripture, Preparing Bible Lessons,
Writing Tracts and Booklets, Training National Missionaries



*But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law,
which Moses the servant of the LORD charged you,
to love the LORD your God, and to walk in all his ways,
and to keep his commandments, and to cleave unto him,
and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.*
Joshua 22:5

Serve—to work, to labour, to be a bond-servant, to worship. Labour is not easy work, and being a bond-servant is even more difficult. However, the highest calling and honor that a child of God could have is not to be a king or a president, a millionaire or the owner of a successful business, a great scholar or a wise counsellor, but to be a bond-servant of the King of kings. We are humbled to think that God has allowed us to serve Him these many years.

Serve Him in truth. (I Samuel 12:24) Although Lewis preached and taught the truth for many years, including teaching a number of men in a Bible school setting, the church leaders have gone astray from the truth, teaching for doctrine the commandments of men which they have learned from other churches or feigned in their own hearts. Even though we are often rejected by the religious leaders, we still seek to serve these people in truth.

Serve Him with a perfect heart and a willing mind. (I Chronicles 28:9) We are to have hearts that are full, wholly ready for whatever task the Lord puts before us, hearts that are peaceable and quiet. In the past few months, the Lord has been sending us a number of people with special needs for prayer, encouragement, or counsel. One Christian

family has a prodigal daughter who left home because she no longer wanted to be under her father's authority.

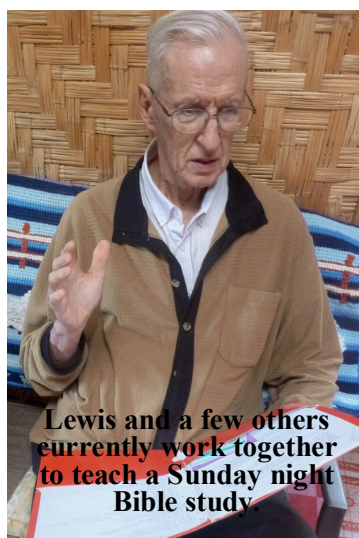
Serve Him with fear. (Psalm 2:11) Please pray that the believers here will serve the Lord with fear. So many, if not most, fear man and strive to please man, thinking that they cannot have an effective ministry without man's approval. In Galatians 1:10, however, we read that if we seek to please men, we are unworthy to be the servants of Christ.

Serve Him with gladness. (Psalm 100:2) How glad we are for the privilege of serving the Lord! Whether our burdens are heavy or light, whether we are weak or strong, whether we are tired or refreshed, the Lord fills our hearts with joy and gladness in serving Him.

Serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul. (Joshua 22:5)

LORD, we are Thy servants,
Ready to do Thy will;
We need perfect hearts and willing minds,
Yielded, humble, and still.

Send us wherever Thou choosest,
Teach us just what to do,
Keep us from disobedience and fear,
Always faithful and true.



Praise and Pray

1. Lord willing, we will soon be able to place copies of an English/Melanesian Pidgin New Testament into the hands of thousands of PNG people. Please keep remembering this Scripture Printing Project in prayer. We have received word that the container of 40,000 New Testaments should arrive at the port of Lae around September 7. We ask you to pray that everything will go smoothly for their checking and release from customs. From Lae the container will be transported to Goroka, and from there the New Testaments will be distributed at no cost to anyone who has a desire to read and use them.

2. Please continue to pray for the three young boys in Young Soldiers Christian Academy—Gideon, Lawrence, and Cornelius. How they love the 23rd Psalm! Although it was not a requirement for them to memorize it, they have nearly memorized the whole Psalm in English, which they are not yet able to speak.

Teaching them has been both a joy and a challenge. Please pray for grace and strength for me as I no longer have a helper.



3. Keep praying also for our specific health needs, and that, whatever measure of health and strength the Lord gives us will be used fully for His glory.

4. A number of men have been gathering poles for an extension to the missionary training room. At first they said there weren't enough trees available close by so we decided to

expand the meeting room to take in our office area, and to move the office area to another part of the house. When the men had carefully reconsidered the matter, however, they decided that the expansion would take much more labor than the extension.

The extension will be used for the storage of some New Testaments as well as for missionary training classes. Pray that the men will complete this project quickly.

5. Praise the Lord that Lewis has completed the translation of the Melanesian Pidgin Old Testament, has proofread it once, and is now proofreading again.

6. Please pray specifically for two young men—Nelson and Esau. Nelson has been receiving the Scripture verse cards that we give out when we charge people's phones. He has requested that we give him as many Bible verses as we can. We are doing our best to fulfill his request, and will surely give him a New Testament as soon as they arrive here. At one time Nelson professed faith in Jesus Christ, but there is no evidence of change in his life.

Esau was a school student of mine in the previous decade, but has gone far from the Lord. Today he came to request our help for him and his family, and, of course, it would be a great joy for us to meet with them and study God's word..

7. Continue to pray that the Lord will send forth more laborers from among the Owena people and among believers throughout the world. Pray for faithful, dedicated men to take the missionary training course.

We appreciate so much each and every one of you who gives, prays, and encourages us as we labor here in PNG!

Because He is worthy,
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