



Lewis and Judy's Labors of Joy



February, 2016

Yet I will rejoice in the LORD. I will joy in the God of my salvation. Habakkuk 3:17

How God has blessed us in the past three months! We joy in God's salvation; we joy in the God of our salvation; and we joy in serving the God of our salvation.

November 25th was a day of remembering and recalling many of God's blessings as we celebrated **Thanksgiving** with family for the first time in eight years.

In the past three months, the Lord has helped us to prepare two more sets of **Sunday school lessons** and send them off to Papua New Guinea for use by Glory Independent Baptist Church in Owena.

On November 29 and December 6, Judy had the privilege of **sharing** her **testimony** with the ladies' Sunday school class at our home church, Emmanuel Baptist Church.



We praise God for Judy's brother and the nice **Honda Odyssey van** the Lord provided for us through her brother's kindness.

The Lord in His love has given us a **special prayer warrior** named Pat, from Madison, Wisconsin.

For the first time in over eight years, we were able to get **eye exams and new eyeglasses**, services which we did not find available in the area of PNG where we worked.

On December 23, our daughters, Christy and Connie, helped us celebrate our 46th anniversary.

On December 25, we and our daughters enjoyed **Christmas dinner** and a quiet afternoon of fellowship with Judy's sister Ellen and her husband Mel.



The evening of December 27, Lewis gave a **report of our work in PNG** to our church

family. We were also blessed to have **special friends** of ours, Chuck and Mary Chambery, come by to visit us on their way from New York state to their winter retreat in Florida.



A booklet called "**Lav. Mesi. Marimari**" (Love, Mercy, Grace) has been completed and is ready to be printed and sent out to the church in Owena.

We have been checking and revising the **translation** of the book of Matthew and are grateful for **Bro. Don Clarke**, a member of our church family who is helping us through his knowledge of Greek.

In January, we flew out to Bowie, TX, where we spent a few days at Baptist **Bible Translators Institute** (BBTI), talking with the director, Bro. Rex Cobb, as we've been considering the possibility of representing that ministry; sitting in on some classes; and getting acquainted with students and other staff. It was a time of

Our Focus

Serving the people
of Papua New Guinea
through
Translating Scripture
Preparing Bible Lessons
Writing Tracts and Booklets

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refreshment and relaxation for us as well. Lewis had the opportunity to speak in one of their chapel services and Judy to share her testimony at their monthly ladies' meeting. BBTI is not a mission board, nor a Bible school, nor a school just for translators. It is a center for advanced missionary training (AMT), consisting of courses not normally available in Baptist schools. At his church and Bible college, the missionary learns *WHAT* to say; AMT prepares him to learn *HOW* to say it in a new tongue and culture. Each BBTI staff member is a missionary with financial support from churches. We would highly recommend this nine months training course for any missionary who will be learning a foreign language and culture.



While we were in Texas, we received word from Mary Mee in Christchurch, New Zealand, about the **Homegoing** of her husband, **Mike**. Mike and Mary were dear friends and fellow missionaries in Papua New Guinea years ago. Mike was in his mid-80's and had been battling cancer for a couple years. He was a faithful prayer warrior and will be greatly missed, but some day we will see him in heaven and receive together the rewards of our ministry among the Owena people. What a day that will be!



Near the end of January, we had our first **winter storm**. How beautiful are God's treasures of the snow! Christy and Connie bunked in with us for several nights as they would not have been able to get out of their trailer

park for several days with all the snow and ice that remained on the cold earth. Our missionary friends, **Nathan Ching and family**, also came by to visit us that weekend. We were just sorry we did not get to spend much time with them due to hazardous road conditions. They stayed in missionary housing several miles from here.



Praise and Prayer

1. We praise God for all of you who so faithfully pray for us and for the church in Owena.

2. We cannot say that we are completely readjusted to life in the U.S., but we are thankful the Lord is helping us. We often think how much simpler life was in PNG.

3. We give thanks to the Lord for providing transportation, temporary housing, our daily needs, a pretty good measure of health, and wisdom in working on translation, Sunday school and youth lessons, booklets, and tracts. More time could and should be given to these projects, but much time has been spent in house hunting. We really need more space to lay out our work so that we will be able to work more effectively.

4. Therefore we ask you to please continue to pray about our housing need. Pray that the Lord will help us to remember to rejoice in Him and wait patiently for His provision even when the hunting seems fruitless.

5. Glory Independent Baptist Church in Owena needs your continued prayers. After three months, Lewis was finally able to get a phone call through to the village via skype. He talked briefly with Pastor David and Matthew. They seem to be doing well, and we praise the Lord for His care for them.

6. We also received word from one of the MAF pilots that one of the packets of Sunday school lessons we sent arrived there safely. However, there have been no flights into the village since we left so please pray for these lessons to somehow reach their hands. Pray also that the second packet of lessons will arrive soon in PNG.

7. We need your prayers as we translate God's Word and write more lessons and other teaching material.

8. We have not yet made a decision about officially representing BBTI. Lewis is waiting to see how his health holds up when we start traveling. We'll be having our first meeting away from home in March, reporting to one of our supporting churches in Virginia. Please pray for our special health needs. We will, however, unofficially represent BBTI as we have opportunity to share some of their literature and tell about their specialized training program.

Joyfully serving our Lord.

Lewis and Judy Young

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