

## Prayer and Praise Update—March 2023

*Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Philippians 4:6 (NLT)*



Dear friends and family,

Praise the Lord for His goodness and sustaining grace. I'm thankful for His promise that "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." It's so easy to say I can't, but thankfully the Spirit reminds me, 'Yes...I am with you and will help you,...just lean on Me.' Thank you, Jesus!

Busy, busy, busy.... Since the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of January, I've been given the added responsibility of Acting Literacy & Education Coordinator. Which means more meetings and more admin/personnel type stuff in addition to my usual responsibilities. The current coordinator has been on leave so that she can focus on getting ready to return to PNG. In fact she is headed there right now. However it is still unclear how long I will need to be in this "acting" role. So in the meantime, I value your prayers for wisdom to learn to prioritize my work time, personal time, and family time (being available to Mom and Beth and the rest of my family). It's so easy to lose track of time when I'm in zoom or skype meetings or staring at my computer all day. Often when I'm in the middle of something I forget to stand up and move and am starting to experience some sciatica and other related pains as a result.

Please pray for the Literacy training staff: Abu, Samuel, Roland, Wayamo and Debbie. They are doing their final preparations for the Vernacular Path to English Course that they will be running in the Kope Language area of Gulf Province. Please pray for good health, clear communication in their lesson presentations and interactions with the participants. The course will run from March 9th-30th. They leave on Wednesday, March 8th, traveling by plane & dinghy, and will return on the March 31<sup>st</sup>. They will be training 60 teachers to use their own Kope language as a bridge to help their children learn to read and write in English. Since the language of instruction from grades 1 and up is English, children who are taught using this method have been more successful in their school work as they continue on in primary school and on to the upper grades.

Praise the Lord that Beth was finally able to have her pre-op appointment for cataract surgery this week. She does not have a date for the surgery as yet. Please pray for good timing in all of this and also that the transport needed can be arranged accordingly. (She needs the "handi-van" type transport).

Thank you so much for your continued prayers and financial support. Please let me know how I might pray for you as well. May you find the Lord to be your strength and help each day.

In His service with you,

*Joy*



Spring is on its way!

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