

News From The Homefront

A Missionary's Wife:

This is about our friend Luci Malu in Papua New Guinea (PNG). Many think that a missionary is a man (and his family) from the United States going to a different country. But to me a wonderful example of a missionary wife is Luci. She left her family and friends in the Highlands of PNG to go live in the capital city of Port Moresby where her husband pastors a church. Travel between Port Moresby and their villages in the Highlands is difficult and expensive. They have to travel partly by airplane and then either rent a vehicle or walk to get there. In the 16 years or so since they moved to Port Moresby, Luci and the children have only been back to their home village several times. Thus we are always happy when it works out for them to see their family once again. This year they are planning to go, the Lord willing, and wrote to us that they want to see their remaining parents before they pass away. And for their children to get to know their grandparents.

In the USA and Australia, we have more technology and are able to keep in touch by phone, Skype, email, and so forth. But the older generation in Papua New Guinea (PNG) would not be able to do these things. Some of the younger generation in the Highlands might have a phone but often have to climb up a mountain to get a signal. Sometimes around the holidays it is a little lonely with just me and Frank, but when I think of Luci and her sacrifices to further the Lord's work, I am humbled. I'm praying for her and the children to have a wonderful time seeing their family this year.

Pruning bushes:

Since summer is upon us we are doing more yard work. I noticed one bush was asymmetrical with two branches a lot longer than the rest of the bush. I was going to go out and prune it and make it more symmetrical but kept forgetting. Then one day I woke up and looked out the kitchen window and there were two beautiful blooms on the two gangly branches. I went outside and looked and admired their beauty. It made me think of how God uses imperfect mankind to accomplish His purpose. Or how something wonderful can come from something that is far from perfect. As the Scriptures say paraphrased, God looks on the heart and we as mankind tend to look on outward things. There is so much to learn from nature. I was glad I forgot to prune that bush and was able to enjoy the beautiful flowers.

Invisible Pill:

Frank and I take a baby aspirin now and then for heart health. You probably know that they are tiny little pills. The other night I had one in the palm of my hand and then made a fist to hold it there and when Frank came into the room, I said here's your baby aspirin. He held out his hand and I let it slip out the bottom of my fist and went on working and didn't look up. Frank started laughing and was standing there with his hand open and there was no aspirin. So I looked all over for it and never could find it. Frank thought he was in Twilight Zone or it was a practical joke because I was so serious saying, "Here's your baby aspirin," and turned away to work and there was nothing there. Well I "knew" I had it in my hand and couldn't figure it out. Then I opened my medical case the next night and there it was on the bottom. Now he likes to wait until I'm looking and open up his hand and stare at it in disbelief. It's fun growing old. ☺

A friend in Christ, Cyd James