



PO Box 1765, Grass Valley, CA 95945
530-272-8170

www.piministries.info piministries@ncws.com

Eric and Penny email: epspim@ncws.com

July 2020

Dear Co-Workers,

Recently a friend shared with me, "I am disheartened that so many around me only come to God with their needs, in contrast to my time on the mission field where prayer meetings were spent proclaiming what great deeds our God had performed in our lives." Her reminder has pushed me to purposefully

proclaim daily what God has done for me! For this month's thank you letter I have chosen some excerpts from the prayer sheets of my childhood friend (who is now a PIM teacher) Susan Wak. She praises our God as she sustains a great loss, and as she journeys through despair to a proclamation of marvelous protection in this year's sheet.



February 2015

Winifred my third girl has died. She died in December after a few days of having diarrhea. I thank Papa God for helping me all last year 2014. I could easily have died with my six-month old baby when she died, but the Lord told me, "Go to Ambunti." (a larger town with medical services) I did that and was safe.

I am also thankful for the Pastor who did Winifred's funeral service. He said, "The body is destroyed, but the spirit goes to God." My child died in the place where I was teaching school. I feel betrayed by the school board and community who seemed heartless the whole time it was happening. There have also been allegations that our child's death is a result of sorcery against our family.

February 2016

People from my husband's home village were spreading false stories about us. They accused us of going to experts in sorcery to learn a certain brand of witchcraft to retaliate for their part in the death of our baby. Gibson and I sent word for them not to think ill of us: "Any such idea was far from our minds. Yes, death happened to our child, but we are not holding it against you or wanting you to suffer for it." After that the youth organized a reconciliation ceremony on January 22. It was a big step for me in overcoming fears and trusting the Lord. We received such a blessing from it when the youth apologized to us with tears and surrendered to the Lord for his will in their lives.

I also praise God that a pastor's wife strengthened me with good words regarding the death of my child. She said to me, "The devil can't take away life. Life is in the hands of God."

February 2018

In November of 2017 Gibson and I went to his home village of Hanasi bringing some materials for a cocoa-drying shed. When we came into the village, the people said, "We didn't think you would come to visit." They thought we would hold lingering hostility from the death of our baby. They cried as they welcomed us. In the next few days we showed our genuine love for them and shared lots of good conversation together. As our visit came to a close they said, "It was like God came here and walked among us." I did have doubts before we made the trip, such as, "Maybe some will still be angry with us and try to do more damage." But eventually I concluded, "What can they really do after all; we are in the hands of God."

February 2019

Moropote was the center for Christians gathering from 24th – 27th December. Many youths from Hanasi, Bitara, Mapuwe and Moropote surrendered themselves completely to the Lord, bringing many sorcery items and burning them. They said, "We are sorry for our evil deeds of the past, for killing and destroying. Forgive us." They were crying as they came forward in the church service that was packed out, many standing outside.



February 2020

Papa God helped me and saved me from a bad accident last year in November one afternoon when a young teenage student and I climbed up to the top of a nearby hill to connect with the cell tower. Since I didn't have food in my house, I had my eyes peeled for some jungle food and saw some leafy greens growing up high in a kwila tree. I climbed up to get them and as I was gathering them in the higher branches, it felt like someone pushed and jabbed at me with something sharp. Then I was shoved again so that I fell out of the tree. But I landed on a soft spot in the jungle, like an angel caught me. Thank you, Jesus! My brother-in-law proclaimed when he heard the story, "If you had not been staying close to the Lord, things would not have turned out so well." The Lord saved me!

I pray Susan's reports have encouraged you. Choosing daily to proclaim what our God has done is not easy, perhaps because not many of us are able to proclaim such a story of providential protection as Susan did. Or perhaps we simply do not recognize the "soft landing in the jungle" when it happens? Regardless, would you join me today? Let's focus our attention to praise and thanksgiving!

Psalm 143: 5-6 I remember the days of old;
 I meditate on all your doings;
 I muse on the work of Your hands.
 I stretch out my hands to You;
 My soul longs for You, as a parched land."

In His Grace,
Michelle Hawkins