

the EIBEN FAMILY

Missionaries to Pohnpei, Micronesia
Gabriel • Susan • Benjamin
Broadcasting the Good News in the regions beyond

"Hear the word of the LORD, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off..." - Jeremiah 31:10



Benjamin visits a C-130 on a search and rescue!

2020 First Quarter

Dear Family and Friends,

As many of you know, Susan homeschools our son Benjamin and tries to make things as interesting as possible. Sometimes it's an unscheduled field trip to see a refueling C-130 on a search and rescue mission. Most of the time she is decorating to liven things up. For March, she cut out basketballs and placed them on the refrigerator along with the words "March Madness". Little did we know how prophetic those words would be. In just a few short weeks it seems that the world has been turned upside down by the pandemic. With nearly every aspect of life being affected by the invisible foe, I am thankful that God has not been taken by surprise.

Thus far, we have had no confirmed cases of the virus here in Micronesia, for which we are very thankful. Most officials, however, believe that it is just a matter of time before this dreaded disease infiltrates our shores. With greater challenges looming on the horizon, I am comforted by Proverbs 21:31 which reads, "The horse is prepared against the day of battle: but safety is of the LORD." From this passage, I take away three simple yet profound truths to apply to my life.

First, there is a war horse, which speaks of planning. We have tried to make plans for what appears to be an imminent quarantine here at the station. This has involved determining what is essential and what is not, and asking ourselves what we can do to minimize our exposure while maintaining contact with the outside world. We've also tried to determine how long our supplies will last if the ships reduce their payload (already happening) or if they stop altogether.

Secondly, there is preparation. In other words, implementation of the plan. This has involved getting the things we need and ensuring alternate methods of doing things (such as cooking or obtaining drinking water) are available and in place before any ordered lockdown. We are readying ourselves to "hunker in the Baptist Bunker" for several weeks if necessary.

Lastly, we are reminded that our safety (which includes our health) "is of the Lord." This, I believe, speaks of our need to pray. Ultimately, everything that is happening is in the Lord's hands, and He is still in control. I so appreciate all the government officials and organizations who are coordinating together to come up with solutions to overcome this crisis, but without prayer to Almighty God, no amount of planning or preparation will defeat this disease.

So yes, we have planned and continue making preparations, but more than anything we are praying. Praying for God to keep our families and friends safe. Praying that God would bless and protect our supporting churches and give the pastors wisdom on how to minister in each unique situation. Praying that God would stop the rising death toll and open the hearts and minds of the lost, helping them to see the brevity of life and their need for Christ. Praying that through this tragedy, God would get glory to Himself and bring revival to our world.

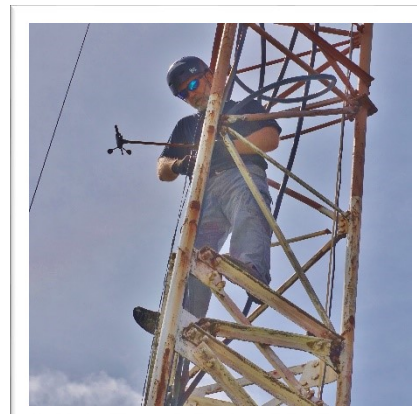
Our local officials and traditional leaders have ordered that all religious services cease until the threat of Covid-19 passes. While it breaks our hearts to social distance from these whom we have come to love dearly, God allows us the continued privilege of broadcasting the Hope of Christ in these trying times. Praise the Lord for the opportunity to serve Him.

Praying for You,

The Eiben Family

PRAYER

- Salvation for the crew of the C-130 who were given Gospel materials & tracts.
- For the children in Sokehs who recently trusted Christ.
- For needed upgrades & repairs on station computer and broadcast equipment.



Maintenance on the radio station tower.

PRAISE

- We recently saw a dozen of our Sokehs kids come to Christ. Praise the Lord.
- For safety while climbing the station radio tower.
- Thus far, there are no cases of Covid-19 in Micronesia. Amen.

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