

September 17, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters at Harvest Baptist,

We are still on home assignment. We are enjoying the time spent with Paul's church. The fellowship and teaching have been great! We also are mostly enjoying the mild weather here in San Diego.

During the summer months, we had visitors staying with us much of the time. We really enjoyed seeing children, grandchildren and our siblings. Now it is time for Bella and me to return the favor. For the next three months we will be away from our furlough "home" for much of the time. We will mostly be staying with family and friends as we travel to see people. Last week, we traveled to Marysville, Washington to visit with friends and supporter up there. On September 20th Bella and I will be flying to Texas. Bella is planning on being with our daughter, Mandy, as she gives birth to her fifth child. During that time, I (Paul) will be staying with our daughter Liana and her family. They have been through some extremely rough times the last few months. I plan to just help out and be an encouragement as much as possible. In October and November we will be driving to Texas, Missouri, Michigan and Illinois. We are hoping to connect with supporters and friends along the way. We plan to come back to San Diego just after Thanksgiving.

Many folks we talk to seem to think that home assignment is just a long vacation. There are many facets of home assignment that we do enjoy. But, in many ways, uprooting and going somewhere else to live for months on hand can be a little stressful too. During this time home we have had a couple of situations in our extended family that have been very stressful. Neither of these situations have been resolved. The Lord is teaching us to trust in him, and "be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."

Two weeks ago, Bella burned the fingers on her left hand pretty severely. It seems to be healing fairly well. She is past the point where she cries each time I change her dressing. Her hand though, is still stiff and sore. Please pray that it will continue to heal with no infection.

During our time here, I have been trying to work on our translation projects. It seems that the only time I really am able to do this, is when we do not have company. So, things have been slower than I had hoped. I am almost finished with writing our "back to English" translation for the book of John. After finishing that, I am hoping to finish 1 Corinthians as well.

We have heard almost nothing from the church in Parobut (Sekadau). I didn't really expect to hear anything. Our folks are somewhat backwards when it comes to technology. They have no cell tower service, and no internet signals. We did hear some sad news via another missionary. One of the young men from the village died after we left. He was in his late 30's and leaves a wife and two small children. In the several months before we left, he had gotten his heart right with God, and was coming to our leadership meetings. He was very knowledgeable of the Bible, and a clear thinker. We will all miss him.

Thank you so much for your prayers for us. Thank you too for your prayers for the Sekadau believers. As much as we enjoy being home for a short while, it is really hard to be away from the believers and ministry in Sekadau. Thank you very much for the \$100 that you sent in July and August.

In Christ,

Paul and Bella

The pictures are of us in Washington, Bella and her sister, Liz, visiting from Chicago, and Bella's poor burned fingers.

