

BLESS THEIR HEARTS

As she sat coloring with her friends, Judah came and sat down near her. He crossed his legs and sat just as she was sitting, then pointed his chubby fingers at the crayons. Naleh understood perfectly; he wanted to be a big kid too. And as a big sister should, she put her drawing aside to tear out a new page for him and give him his pick of the 48 crayons. Beaming, he smiled his thanks and then went straight to work, coloring.

“Bless your heart!” As a good southern Grandma would say. Grandma Peggy is a professional heart-blesser. You can be sure your heart will be blessed a number of times on any one visit. Since our trips to Tennessee are few and VERY far between, it seems that when we come our kids get “blessed” nearly to death.

But as I sat and watched Naleh helping Judah with the crayons I couldn’t help but think we’ve got it all wrong. For it is they who “Bless our Hearts.” And it is because of those blessings of joy they give us that we feel the desire to “Bless their hearts.”

I don’t wonder that our Heavenly Father must feel the same way when he sees his children “playing well with others,” cleaning up after a fellowship dinner, sending blankets and clothes to the poor, and comforting a grief stricken family. How his heart must soar with pride to see his children be compassionate and understanding with those who get kicked around in this world.

How many times has He “Blessed your Heart?” If you don’t feel blessed today, bless someone else; our Heavenly Father knows your every need!



PASTOR & CHURCH LEADERS SEMINAR



The pastor and church leader’s seminar was a big success and we know it is due in large by your prayers. Jesse read and taught from the Ap Ma Books of 1st and 2nd Timothy. The men read and studied the Scripture each morning for 2 hours. They opened their sessions with singing and prayer and after the Bible study they had a short tea break. For the next hour and

a half they studied different spiritual disciplines like daily scripture reading, stewardship, and prayer. At lunch time the people here in Samban brought food to feed them and in the afternoons they discussed issues facing the church such as, how to handle church finances, how to organize a church service, how to incorporate the newly translated books of the Bible into their worship services, etc. The sessions ended at 3:00 each day and the people who had traveled from villages far away were housed in the old mission classroom and in the houses of some church members. People paddled canoes; some for a day or two to get here, others walked from 1-5 hours to get here by land. Twelve Ap Ma churches were represented and 43 pastors or leaders were in attendance. Due to the overwhelming response to the course we hope to offer one or two a year in the hope to encourage the pastors and leaders most of who receive nothing for their efforts by way of pay.

HIS BLESSINGS ABOUND

- Pray a prayer of thanks that the Lord protected us and blessed the time of the Seminar.
- Thanks to finally have the new bridge under roof!
- Thanks for the new boat and outboard motor that were donated for use in transporting sick and injured to the hospitals and clinics.
- Thanks for the new solar panels and charger donated to help cut down on fuel consumption.

HIS MERCIES NEVER CEASE

- Pray for a productive and educational experience for the two PBT interns coming to stay with us for a couple of months.
- Pray for the leaders involved in the seminar that they would put into action the teaching they received.
- Pray for continued good health and daily protection from harm.

THE THREE MUSKETEERS

Naleh-6 ½ Naleh is enjoying her time in school and is so proud of the rag doll she helped to sew!

Elijah-4 ½ Elijah is doing very well in preschool each morning and loves to show everyone how well he can write his name.

Judah-15 months Judah, "the streak", Pryor is enjoying the new freedom of mobility and has become quite hard to keep track of. His favorite pastime is to sneak into the kid's room and climb up the ladder to Eli's top bunk!

BRIDGE COMPLETION

Well it has been a long time coming but the community finally got the roofing done up so that we could complete the house over the new bridge. You will notice that the ends of the roof angle up in the traditional "houseboy" architecture. Jesse used the tractor to straighten the road so that now a trip to the airstrip to pick up supplies is a nice smooth ride.

