



Ministry Update

Rick & Vi Brooks

missionaries serving missionaries

"Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD and whose hope is the LORD... and will not be anxious..." Jer. 17:7-8

Dear Praying Friends...Greetings from Ft Worth, Texas!

It was 8:30AM a couple of weeks ago when Vi's doctor called to give us the results of recent tests...**"It is breast cancer" and I'm referring you to an oncologist surgeon!"**

Over the previous week, my wife had had several tests subsequent to finding a suspicious lump. **The surgery will be on June 3rd**. Obviously our life's schedule has changed to accommodate the care Vi is going to need over the coming weeks. **I know you will be praying...thank you!!** Below is what my wife wrote up and has already sent to our family and some of you:

"Our new challenge: I have been diagnosed with breast cancer. It is treatable and I have met with the surgeon who will perform a partial mastectomy. It will probably be a day surgery and will only require chemotherapy in pill form, followed 4 weeks with radiation treatment.

I am constantly amazed that God's Word is so specific about living here on earth. Psalm 139:13-18 "For you formed my inward parts, you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance, in your book were written, every one of them, **the days that were formed for me when as yet there was none of them.** How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast the sum of them. If I would count them, they are more than the sand. I awake, and I am still with you."

When I received the initial phone call saying "cancer," I went back to my journal that I started January 1 with the theme of HOPE. I reread the Scripture verses that related to hope and was greatly encouraged that God had been preparing me for this very day! **I rejoiced that He would count me worthy to endure something new in order to make His glory known.** My dear husband has been such a support as we have prayed through the "what if's" and we both have set our hope on Him alone.

The theme for this chapter of my life is found in Jeremiah 17:7-8 (see top of letter)

I am truly hoping to be able to go "home" to Schroon Lake for a few weeks this summer before beginning radiation. But for now, we are "camping" in Texas."

Vi and I don't want to waste this cancer experience and pray that as others watch our lives they too will be encouraged in whatever struggle they may be facing. I recently read this quote as a good reminder that we are the church before a watching world: "Anxious Christians are bad advertisements for the God of all comfort" - Matthew Chandler

HIGHLIGHTS SINCE OUR LAST PRAYER

Please rejoice with us over just a few points of praise during these spring months:

- **March in Schroon Lake – The annual Adirondack Sportsman's Dinner** - another huge success as our local church committee and an army of church volunteers' work was rewarded with **23 trusting Christ as savior and 27 making decisions of dedication!** It's a blessing when events like this continue with the evident hand of God's blessing!
- **Australia – Central New South Wales, Ministry "KICK OFF"** – Energy packed fun activities are the draw for hundreds of Aussie teens to attend. At each of these events we take a break to present **a clear & concise Gospel message followed by an invitation for youth to accept Christ as Savior.** Here's how one pastor wrote about the event:

"Our daily bread of ministry to young people is nothing like KICKOFF! Continued on page 2



Brooks Prayer Prompter

Spring - 2014

"Pray without ceasing."
1 Thess. 4:17

Sunday – Pray for Rick's time management and preparation for future speaking engagements.

Monday – Pray for Vi's breast cancer surgery on June 3 and subsequent series of chemo pills and radiation treatments.

Tuesday – Pray for our WOL Fiji-an director's car project...**only \$3,200 to go!**

Wednesday – Pray for each S. Pacific country leaders planning for youth camps, conferences and evangelistic outreaches!

Thursday – Pray for Lynda Dugan as she heals from a recent surgery. Jim & Lynda serve faithfully in Australia.

Friday – Pray for 2 of our PNG staff doing support raising soon; Emanuel Vala going to Australia in July & Josh Seilala coming to the states in Sept.

Saturday – Pray for our adult children: Robin – Her testimony at the eye clinic and overseeing details of our home (NY); Michelle – shining for Jesus in the marketplace (Texas); Julie & Marek – Summer ministries ahead in their village church and with teaching English as well as raising Godly kids (Czech Rep); Suzi – Juggling a busy life of work this summer at the Botanical Gardens, nursing school, scouts, camp and church activities (Texas).

Rick & Vi - Pray we will be Godly examples to our adult kids, grandkids and to the watching world...that they all might see Jesus shining through us!

*We are the foot soldiers- breaking into enemy territory bit-by-bit through relationship building, small-groups, daily service in our community- regularly witnessing to the power of Christ to change a life. We do the long hard labour. We break down enemy lines and with God's grace open the doors. Then we call for a renewed focus and energy. We call in back-up. And with WOL it arrives like a warship or fighter jets- with explosive energy in a great program that offers a genuinely engaging and fun youth night with a fresh and determined proclamation of the gospel. As Martin says: "We don't cage the lion." In a way, these WOL guys are the cheats. They come in and reap a harvest where they have not sown. But they know this; they know they are building with us on foundations laid before. Because they are partners- always respectful, always listening to our wisdom, always praying, always encouraging, always seeking to join alongside us in the battle. When I see guys who I have ministered to over years raise their hand to accept Jesus in a **KICKOFF**- well, that is exactly why this ministry is important and why we will continue to call in the WOL fighters"...**Richard Milligan - Sr. Pastor, Nyngan Baptist Church***

New Zealand – Our WOL Kiwis celebrate 30 yrs of ministry! Nate Martin writes..."With 130 people in attendance, our team looked back at how God has used the ministry of Word of Life to change the lives of thousands of people over the years. It was amazing for me to hear the testimonies and stories from people who were part of the ministry in the very early days right up to today! "It is a privilege for me to be part of a ministry that God, in His grace, is using to change lives for eternity"



Fiji Car Project – We introduced the need to equip our WOL Fijian director with a car which would enable him to reach majority of his country's population in the rural areas. The goal was \$12,000 to purchase a reliable used car. **The response has been super so far with a remaining balance of only \$3,200!** Thank you to those of you who have participated and pray with me that the Lord will soon meet this very real need. (See response slip below to give to this project) Also, **WOL Fiji will host a Youth Reachout team from New Zealand beginning June 27th**. Pray for power of the Gospel to change Fijian youth and for our Kiwi team to also be impacted to serve our Savior for the rest of their lives in both the secular and sacred world.

Thank you to all of you who faithfully pray and support our ministry to our S. Pacific ministry team! We could not be entering our 47th year of ministry were it not for a faithful team partnering with us each and every month! As we face this surgery, we want you to know that we are in good spirits and thanking God for His sustaining grace.

Rejoicing in Christ,

Rick & Vi Brooks
Missionaries serving missionaries!

PS: Please scroll down for response slip & to share your prayer requests with us!



Brooks' Ministry to the South Pacific

Dear Rick and Vi:

I / We would like partner with you in this outstanding ministry opportunity!

- New (or increased) support of \$ _____ a month.
 - Special Gift of \$ _____ for Fiji Car Project #07808C
 - For online giving via C/C or an Electronic Funds Transfer please send us information
 - Please pray for us in the follow way _____
-

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

All gifts to the ministry of Word of Life are tax deductible. Please make check payable to Word of Life and return with this response form to: Word of Life, PO Box 600, Schroon Lake, NY 12870-0600