

July 16, 2024

Dear Brothers and sisters at Harvest Baptist Church,

Bella and I have been back in the States now for over a month. We finished the Bible dedication and presentation and then had a little over a week to try and wrap things up in the village. It was a hectic time for us. Originally we had thought we might be leaving the village permanently. But after considering what still needs to be done there, we decided to go back at the end of our home assignment. Our plan is to finish revising all the Bible lessons we have made through the years. So we plan to go back in January for around 6 months.

Our trip out of interior was the most physically taxing trip we have ever made. All the people in that area of the country have planted palm oil trees to try to make a living. They use large and generally overloaded trucks to bring out the palm oil fruit to be sold. Those trucks make huge mud holes in unpaved roads and create huge potholes in the asphalted parts. In a first for us, the four-wheel drive vehicle that came to get us got stuck in one of the large mud holes. When we arrived in town, we felt like our bodies had been beaten. If the road is that bad or worse when we go back to Parobut, we very likely will not come out of the village at all until we are finished with what we need to do.

After we finish in Parobut, we have no idea what we will be doing. We really have no desire to retire. Bella and I are in pretty good health, and we seem to still have our mental capability. We would like to be involved in ministry somewhere, but we have no idea where that might be. As we have our whole lives, we are trusting God to lead us to do whatever it is He wants to do.

During our time here in the States, we are trying to catch up with friends and supporters. Life here is at a different pace than living in a village. Our days seem to get away from us more quickly. We want to be working on revising lessons while we are here. We had more success during the first few weeks of our time home than we have had in the last few weeks. We still hope to get more of the lessons revised while we are here.

Our daughter Cori was with us for the last couple of weeks. She left last week. It was great having her here. She also visited friends and supporters while she was here. This week, three of our granddaughters came for a visit for 10 days. We will be glad to see them. We hope that our time with them will not just be fun, but also that we will be able to talk about some of the decisions they are making now. One of them is in college, one of them is going into her senior year of high school, and one of them is going to be a sophomore in high school.

Thanks so much for your prayers for us. And thank you too for the \$100 that you sent to us in May and June. Please do continue to pray for us that we will accomplish what we need to while we are home, and that we will know what the next step in our lives will be when we finish in Parobut. Thank you.

Yours in Christ,

Paul and Bella Gervasi

Prayer requests:

1. For the church in Parobut. We hear from them about once a week. Some of the leaders have left the village for one reason or another. That put a lot of strain on the ones who are left.
2. We are seeing doctors while we are home. So far so good. Pray that we will get done whatever it is that needs to be done to keep these frail bodies going for a little while longer.
3. Pray that we will see who we need to see and get done what we need to get done while we are back in the States.
4. Please pray that we will know what is next for us. We really want to be used of God until He takes us home.

Our phone numbers while we are home are;

Paul 945 209-8606

Bella 903 422-5630

We got stuck here on our way out of the village.



Cori, Bella and I eating lunch overlooking the beach



Bella and I enjoy biking while we are on home assignment.

