
Medical Furlough - Prayer Letter October 2023

7 Day PRL Challenge <7dayprl@gmail.com>
Draft

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Deuteronomy 31:8 - It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.



Have you ever asked God, "how did we get here?" The past 2½ weeks have been a bit of a whirlwind and a little overwhelming. We are currently in Australia to get some medical testing done for Phil. We decided not to share much until we knew more. From the medical tests and doctor's appointments it was determined that Phil needs surgery for a pacemaker which will take place this Tuesday, October 17th. This will require an overnight stay in the hospital. Other testing has shown that Phil is positive for prostate cancer. It is an intermediate cancer and we are grateful for news that could have been worse. He is scheduled for a PET/CT scan October 20th. We'll know more about treatment after that.

God has gone before us and has made preparations for us each step of the way. We had witnessing opportunities with the medical staff. Above we are pictured with Steve and Sue Mayo, who are ABWE missionaries as well. Steve is our Regional Director. Their family has been such a blessing. Sue arranged all of the initial appointments. They arranged housing and a vehicle for us to use and even two of their children have helped too. This was no surprise to God. He knew what we would need and when we need it and He has been providing for us each step of the way.

We had a friend share with us

Deuteronomy 31:8 which has been such a blessing to us.

“It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.” Thank you, Lord, for your promises that can be an incredible comfort to us!

During our time here we have already got too close to 2 poisonous spiders, learned to navigate roundabouts in a right-hand drive car while driving on the left-hand side of the road, got a little down time in between medical appointments and learned that Aussies really like their tea.

If you would pray for:

- Pacemaker surgery to go well on Tuesday
- PET/CT scan on Friday and good results from this
- Insurance to coordinate to prepay for the bigger services since we are not Australian citizens and pre-payment is required
- For us to be honoring to God and provide witnessing opportunities for us
- We can return to our dear land and people that we love in PNG quickly.

We love you and pray for you often,

Your missionaries to PNG,

Phil and Jan Smith

Acts 20:24

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