

Micronesia

For The

Master

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Rusty and Mendy

Kaselehlie Maing ko! We hope that this newsletter finds you all in the best of spiritual and physical health. We are getting very close to our departure from Pohnpei. We have such mixed feelings about leaving, but are excited that we will be able to visit all of our supporters on this trip.

We've asked you to pray for Rusty and Mendy in the last few newsletters, and God has answered those prayers. When we first started worshipping in David's home in Madolehnimw last year he was very eager for us to build a new church building. I told him we did not have the funds for it, but we would do

what we could. A few months after trying and failing to get a building going in a couple of different locations we settled on a piece of land David's family owns about twenty minutes from our house. We built the building and started wor-

shipping. David invites everyone he knows to come and worship. He owns a small store right next to the building and encourages every customer to come to worship and Bible class. Mendy, who lives just up the hill from the building started attending right away with her two children. Because she was coming faithfully we asked if we could come and study with her family. We started studying a few months ago and they liked what they were hearing. We have been impressed how eager they are to hear the word and get their lives right with God. Like many couples in Pohnpei they were not legally married and they wanted to have that taken care of too. We kept trying to arrange

for them to be married and baptized at the same time, but things kept coming up and it wasn't working out. Finally, they decided they would be baptized and stay separate until they could make their marriage official. On Thursday evening April 13th after Bible class we went down to the river and they were baptized. We made arrangements to have a wedding on the next Sunday, April 16th. As we were leaving the baptism I reminded them to wait to come together until they were married. I jokingly said, "Don't be naughty" and Mendy said, "Don't worry, I will sleep with a knife next to me." Mendy went and stayed with Ricky and Cassandra who were baptized last month. They came to worship on Sunday morning and after we had a short ceremony for them. One of the very encouraging things is Rusty led the closing prayer on his very first Sunday. We are so happy that Rusty and Mendy have gotten their lives right with God and we ask you to keep them in your prayers as they grow.



Pictures: Wayne baptizing Mendy and Rusty; Mendy and Rusty after their wedding; Conducting the ceremony.

Emy and Trickson

Sunday April 16th was a busy day in Pohnpei. Not only was it Easter and Rebecca's birthday, but also the wedding day for Rusty and Mendy. We knew that Rusty and Mendy were going to marry that day, but we thought we could make it back to town to have a birthday lunch for Rebecca. We figured it would be busy so we made a reservation at one of Rebecca's favorite restaurants. But, our plans got interrupted when after my sermon Trickson came to the front and sat down during the invitation song. Trickson is young, just 10 years old, so I wasn't sure if he was responding to the invitation, or if he was just moving around as the kids often do in Pohnpei. We were still singing and he stood up and looked behind him to his grandfather, David, who nodded encouragingly at him. I usually don't say anything to people who respond to the invitation until after the invitation song, but I went and sat down next to him and asked what he would like. He said, "I want to be baptized." I am not for baptizing children before they are ready and was not sure that Trickson was. I know he has heard about baptism for a long time now and seen several, but I still didn't think he was quite ready. I asked



him, "Are you sure you're ready for that?" He said, "Yes." I said, "Maybe we should wait", but he insisted, "I want to be baptized now." I figured if he was bold enough to argue with me about it, he was ready. So we announced to everyone that Trickson wanted to be baptized, had the short wedding for Rusty and Mendy and then took Trickson to the river to be baptized.

As soon as we pulled over at the river someone said, "Scott, David wants to talk to you." I went over to his car (David has only one leg so he just watched everything from the car), and he said, "Scott, Emy wants to ask

you something." Emy is Trickson's mother and the wife of Puidwyn, who was baptized last year. We have studied with her several times, but she has always insisted that her baptism at the Mormon church when she was younger was legitimate. She told me, "I am also ready to be baptized now." I asked if she was sure and she told me that she knew she needed to do it and was ready. Her son being baptized helped her to see that she was being stubborn in not submitting to the Lord's will. I thought, what a powerful example this ten year old boy is being already!

We baptized both of them and Wayne and his boys have already had one follow up study with them. We plan to start having Trickson participating in the worship leading prayers very soon. Please keep them both in your prayers.



Pictures: Trickson confessing that Jesus is Lord; Emy's baptism; Trickson's baptism.

Charlie Soulik

I've been writing in our newsletters and talking in our presentations about Charlie Soulik for several years now. We first met him in 2005 and began studying. We studied almost every week for about two years before he finally obeyed the Gospel. He was baptized when Robert Martin was here teaching the very first Pacific Islands Bible College course in Pohnpei. I remember when he was baptized telling Robert how it took such a long time for Charlie to obey the Gospel and Robert said, "Scott, the people who will study with you for a long time before obeying the Gospel are often the very most faithful Christians you will know." Well, Robert was certainly correct about that when it comes to Charlie. If he misses a worship or Bible class time I know he is very sick. He comes faithfully to every service, workshop, or Bible class that we have. Charlie is a diligent worker willing to do anything for the Lord's work. He preaches, leads singing, drives the van, and goes on studies. He never complains when I ask him to do anything no matter how difficult. He took that first class offered by Robert way back in 2007 and has taken every PIBC course offered since. Finally, after ten years of hard work Charlie graduated from PIBC. I think the lowest grade he has ever made on a test was in the 90's. I was so happy to be able to hand him his diploma this week. I know that Charlie doesn't need a diploma from any institute to please the Lord, but I am so happy to see him accomplish this great task. Please continue to pray for Charlie as he labors for the Lord here in Pohnpei.



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Mesihso Children's Classroom

The congregation we planted last year and for which we have recently built a building is in the village of Mesihso. The building we built is small, with just one room. We meet every Thursday evening for Bible class. We've had the children meeting in the building and the adults meeting out on the side of the road. It rains almost everyday in Pohnpei, but we have been blessed to not have had a class rained out yet. However, we knew having class on the road would

eventually lead to problems, so we decided to build a small room for the children. I told the men we could not spend much money on it, so it would have to be made using local materials only. I was very surprised last week when I went up to Mesihso to visit and found Ricky and Cassandra, Andreas and Senilihter, Rusty and Mendy, and Asher all working to make thatch. They had started a few days before collecting all the materials and putting everything together. I could not believe that they did this all on their own. I was so happy that they took the initiative to get this classroom built. Asher, who lives the furthest from the building, was spending the night at Ricky and Cassandra's house so that he would not have to find a ride every morning. Just a few days after I saw them working they had the frame built and, as of this writing, they are just a day or two away from finishing up. The only money we had to spend was a few dollars worth of nails, and \$19.00 to buy 14 pallets for the floor. I really can't explain just how great it feels to see these new Christians put their time and talents to use for building this room for the church. We hope and pray that this new project will help the church grow.

Thank you to all of you for all that you do for us! Please keep us in your prayers as we wind down our time here in Pohnpei.

Scott, Rebecca and Violet



Pictures: Charlie receiving his diploma; Children's classroom; Frame; Ricky working on the new classroom.