

Hello all!

On my way to physical therapy today I realized that I haven't updated you for quite some time. Well, surgery went very well and the recovery hasn't been as difficult as I had imagined. I am have been off of crutches for a while now, and was told today that I should be going without my brace as long as I am in "safe" situations. I am getting stronger every day and it's encouraging (although painful at times) to go to therapy & see that I am indeed making progress! Thank you all so very much for your love, prayers, & encouraging words through this ordeal. It was my first surgery & I was quite apprehensive...of course, it has helped immensely to have such a great family helping me out here at home.

As part of this update, we wanted to send an excerpt of an e-mail that we received from New Guinea. It's not from YembiYembi this time, but it's from the tribe that we frequently used to travel in & out of during our moving in days to Yembi. Mark & Holly Woodard & their kids are close friends and this story really touched our hearts. Hope you are encouraged by seeing Him in it too!

\*\*\*We heard the long, hollow, eerie sound beat out on the death drum, the GARAMUT that night, and ran down to the village to see who had died. It was a rough time for this believing family. Henri is one of our Bible teachers. Mark was holding onto Henri (the dad) that night, and he said through his tears, "Mark, I know this is God's program. But he was my buddy. Levi was my little buddy! I was just teaching him to work, and he was going to be alongside me." There was much crying, mourning, and big grieving over the loss of this precious kid. The mom, Skola, who was pregnant at the time, has had an especially difficult time losing their eldest son. "I just see his hand-marks everywhere – his little canoe that he just carved himself, the places he played & the place he slept in our house. I know he knew Christ and I know he is with Him, but I miss my Levi." It was a heart-wrenching time, and yet we watched them grieve ... with HOPE. **Levi knew Jesus and he is now with Him.**

Fast Forward to DECEMBER 2011 ...Some simple things in life like a child being born to a family of five are amazing miracles and raise our spirits – kind of like something that we feel has come straight from our Great Creator Being. When Mark went to the village earlier this month, he saw Henri sitting on a porch grinning from ear to ear. He sat down beside him and Henry could barely contain himself. He said, "It was Great Creator Being's way/plan. This is the kind of Great Creator Being is He is. It was his plan to give me another boy. This boy took Levi's place. I am so very happy this morning and thanking my Great Creator Being for putting me in his inner being (loving me) today." Skola gave birth to a baby boy ... and they have decided his name will be 'Junior Levi'.

Thanks so much for loving us, praying for us, & praying for the folks here in Mariama & Anganamai. We send our greetings across the miles!\*\*\* Thanks for praying for Mark, Holly, & kids as they continue to teach God's Word among the Mariama people!! We have brothers & sisters in Christ from Mariama that we will see one day because of their faithfulness in working & teaching among them!

Well, CHRISTmas is over and the New Year is so close now...incredible how quickly the years are beginning to fly by! (is that because we are getting so old?! ☺) It has been humbling to sit & think about all that God did & all that He had planned in sending His Son so many years ago. He knew even before the very first breath what His Son was going to go through...and yet he came!! Emmanuel...God with us...what an amazing season! I am convicted to celebrate this ALL year, not just during these short weeks/days. Hard to do when you get into the hustle & busyness of life. We hope that your Christmas was a very special time with special people around you as you celebrated Him...and we pray that this coming year is full of His blessings, whatever that may mean for you in His plan for your life! We love you ALL and are so incredibly grateful that God has placed you on our team to reach this ugly, dark

world with the Light of our Savior!! Just before Christmas we graduated 30 students...many of whom are continuing on in the training to go overseas as missionaries! It's always hard to say good-bye, but we know that the Lord has good things planned for them...to use them in His Story! We are now gearing up for a new semester with a new in-coming class!! Thanks for the part that you play in making this happen.

Maybe we will get to see some of you this year...maybe?! Never know where we might show up! ☺ We will have another update out here soon. Dave & I have been talking about some new & specific goals for our family in this coming new year & we want to let you in on some of that. Felt like I should get one out now because I realized that you all hadn't heard much from me since surgery! Just wanted to make sure you all knew how much we love & appreciate you!! Will write again soon!

Because He came...

Dave, Missy, Talia, Jaeden, & Olivia



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***We are so grateful for you and this ministry that impacts ETERNITY!!***

***Support via a check can be made out to New Tribes Mission and in the memo line state that it is for the ministry of Dave & Missy Schroeder. To give online via a debit or credit card: <http://www.ntm.org/give/1036>. Electronic Fund Transfer and automatic credit card deposits are available to those wishing to send support automatically every month. Set it up online or call 1 (866) 547-2460.***