

Bill Ardill

From: Bill Ardill [bill.ardill@sim.org]
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2008 5:44 AM
To: ardill-news@sim.org
Subject: that's not my child
Attachments: image001.gif; image002.jpg

Last week I operated on a two year old boy who had a cleft lip and repaired his lip. When the anesthesia nurse brought the child back to his room and put him in his bed, the mother did not recognize him and told the nurse, "That's not my child." Finally after some convincing, she was overjoyed at the transformation in her boy and when they were discharged a few days later she was thrilled.

To give you an idea of the scope of practice here a sister of one of our Nigerian friends was brought to the emergency room because she was acting quite crazy. A few days earlier her family had a meeting to decide on the dowry to ask for her from the man who had proposed a while ago. Later in the evening she went to her apartment and found a cow horn with chicken feathers on it in front of her door. She freaked out and began acting quite strangely. She stopped eating and could not sleep for several days. None of this came out at her first visit to the emergency room but when another doctor asked me about the situation, I suspected there was something spiritual going on. The cow horn was a curse on her by someone and she recognized that and didn't know what to do. Eventually churches leaders were called in to pray for her and help get to the bottom of the spiritual oppression and after much prayer she began to feel better by the end of the week. So as you can see "our struggle is not (only) against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places". Eph 6:12 NASU

Marie has been playing on the Hillcrest girls' soccer team and this was their last week. Several Nigerian schools were invited for a tournament and Hillcrest did well. On Friday their game was tied so they went into penalty kicks. Hillcrest lost the shootout but overall played well and improved a great deal over the season. Unfortunately Marie did not get a lot of play time during the season so we will see if she still wants to play next year.



Saturday was another big day in our house for two reasons. Heather and Anna spent the entire afternoon getting a "froofed up" for the 8th grade banquet. It is the last big social event for the middle schoolers before they enter high school and are at the bottom of the heap. Their "dates" or escorts actually asked them last August when we got back from furlough if they would go with them to the banquet so this has been in the works for a while. It began to rain in the afternoon but we are glad the showers stopped by the time they were ready to go. After all the work on the nails, the hair,

the makeup and finally the dress and shoes, they both looked terrific. We took lots of pictures of them and they went off and had a great evening with their classmates. Heather and Ann then stayed at one of the hostels and had a sleepover so were pretty tired today. We are glad they had fun after all their preparation and excitement.

Then on Saturday morning my brother Jim's son Luke came down from Niger Republic where he is serving as a short term missionary with SIM. He has been working the last 6 months at a leprosy hospital helping in the physical therapy department and got a ride to Jos with another missionary family coming to Miango for vacation. It has been great to have him with us this weekend and we are happy he can stay for two weeks. We are looking forward to showing him around Jos and the many ministries and activities in which we are involved.

Today we took Dorothy out for lunch to celebrate Mother's Day at our favorite restaurant in Jos. I took Luke to Miango this afternoon to show him a place that has been so important to our family – Kent Academy, the Miango Rest and Conference Center, the cemetery, Mt. Sanderson and the pigsty.

This is the last week of regular classes so everyone is happy the school year in winding up. This week there is a Middle School concert, a High School concert, the Sports Award event and Baccalaureate next Sunday. Thanks for praying for the girls that they prepare well for their finals and finish strong.

My father got a urinary infection and was back in the hospital this week to get the infection under control and build up his strength. He has not been eating well so they will also do some investigations to sort this out.

Thanks for praying for him and my mother. So till next week.

In Christ,
Bill Ardill

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