



NEW HOPE MINISTRIES

Newsletter — Vol 1, March 2023

Dear Friends,

we are well into the second semester of the school year here in Sanggau. And it is just about this time when everyone tends to get "terbiasa" with life at the boarding home.

"Terbiasa" (too accustomed, too familiar) – a bit too used to the way things are done. The kids are not quite as committed to learning, homework and doing chores. Getting out of bed in the morning gets harder each day. The kitchen menu and songs in Sunday service and are the same each week. We (staff) find our patience wearing out and our love wanting.

Your life circumstances and work environment may be totally different, but are you finding yourself sometimes getting "terbiasa"?

The apostle Paul writes in his letter to the Galatians:

„AND LET US NOT GROW WEARY OF DOING GOOD, FOR IN DUE SEASON WE WILL REAP, IF WE DO NOT GIVE UP.“ (GALATIANS 10:6)

"Let us not be weary in well-doing" says another translation. Without stretching the meaning too far: Don't stop doing the things you are doing well – always give it your best!

I have to admit that I am not very patient when it comes to the part "in due season". So when my hopes and expectations are not met, it is easy to become frustrated. But there is a firm promise – we *will* reap!

If the question, plainly asked, is "Why keep on struggling? Why even bother?", Paul's answer to it is simple: "It is well worth it." There is a reward to commitment, faithfulness, even sacrifice.

On a much larger scale, we see people and even the earth itself reeling under war and violence, economic challenges and poverty, natural disasters and catastrophes. How would one not grow weary, hopeless and numb? Can we, can I possibly change things, change anything?

I find an answer in being faithful in the small things that I can do each day, lending a helping hand, a word of encouragement or a hug for one of the children God has entrusted to us here at New Hope. In their lives, in due season there is change. A boy who used to stammer because of inferiority can now read, a girl that was too insecure to even look at a camera now has a cheerful smile.

They grow in their love for God, too – the guy who never seemed to bother about prayer or worship suddenly meets Jesus and now wants to be baptized. A young lady that graduated from high school and had already gone to the village, three months later asks whether she can come back to New Hope as a volunteer because God touched her heart. As we bless others, we are blessed!

Thank you all once again for being a part of this ministry, for blessing the children and staff here at New Hope with your prayers and support.

Wolfgang & Heidi

Wolfgang & Heidi (for all staff and children of NHM)



PRAY FOR

- The upcoming National exams of our class 9 and 12 students
- God's "master plan" for future construction and development

PRAISE GOD (SEE BEHIND)

- The arrival of a new baby girl in Adit & Apriana's family
- Professional treatment for Bet, covered by the government

NEWSFLASH

From Mid February to Mid April, all Class 11 students are on attachment in different government offices in town as part of their vocational training. It's quite a challenge for them to leave early morning and only come back late in the afternoon.



NEW ARRIVAL - GREAT JOY

For several years already, Apriana and Adit had been hoping for a child, and God put on their hearts to adopt—becoming parents to a little one that no one else could or would care for. No real opportunity came up however, and more time passed.

Then in November last year, things suddenly went fast. News came from a village pastor that a lady whose husband died during her pregnancy would not be able to raise her baby. Adit and Apriana cancelled their long planned and well deserved family visit to Java, on December 9 the little girl was born, and few days later they brought the newborn home to New Hope. Now they are proud parents of Jessie Maranatha.

The adoption process is under way; and we hope that all will go smoothly for Mama, Papa and Jessie.

MORE PRAYERS AND MIRACLES NEEDED

Late last year one of our boys started having frequent headaches and at the same time we could see that he increasingly struggled with reading. At the local hospital, a caring and keen doctor scheduled him for a CT scan revealing a benign but still growing tumor. An emergency operation was carried out there and then fixing a drain to release the pressure on the brain tissue and cranial nerves. Bet was referred to Pontianak for an MRT and from there to the top specialist Government hospital in Jakarta, the only place where complicated brain surgeries can be done. Eventually on 23 February, in a twelve-hour operation the tumor was largely removed.

We are immensely grateful—to God having preserved Bet's life up unto and through the operation, to helpful doctors and the government insurance scheme providing free treatment to destitute families, and to a dear family member and many friends in Germany graciously giving to cover all the other expenses - transport to Pontianak, flights to Jakarta, accommodation for Bet's older sister and aunt who accompany him. Bet's widowed mother and family would not possibly be able to afford all that.

We ask you for your continued prayer for Bet's further treatment including radiotherapy, for complete recovery and a miraculous restoration of his vision that he basically completely lost while waiting for the operation - and for him to soon be able to return to New Hope and continue his schooling here.



NEW COUPLES, NEW ROOFS

Four of our staff members are planning to get married this year - Ayu and Alton in June, Tiurma and Yefta towards the end of 2023.

What brings great joy to us also brings some challenges. For the young couples, of course planning and financing the wedding. For New Hope, housing. Most of the buildings on the compound were not designed for married couples or young families.

As a first step, the "Rumah Tingkat", one of the oldest and only two storey building on the compound will be renovated. Rust is eating the roof, termites have eaten up the wooden framework of walls and ceilings. Major work to be done in the next few months. The demolition crew already started!

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