

HOWe THINGS ARE... Don't worry, it's not contagious.

June 2017

Medical things I learned:

1. Let's say you have an ear infection and are given some drug you didn't know you were allergic to... an impressive rash can happen. Once that calms down, you can start looking very much like you're becoming a zombie. It's not, by the way, either some exotic disease picked up while traveling in Asia or anything related to if your kidneys are broken and broken kidneys aren't doing a good job filtering and thus, building up toxins which result in impressive rashes/zombie like skin.
2. Then, let's say due to zombie skin and previous rash, you see dermatology. They have miracle creams that make you not itch at all. Also, they are very sympathetic to people with zombie skin and previous rashes. You feel like a star for having survived and also for having documented certain portions of the journey in photographs, even if you didn't photograph swollen hands or eyes or the zombie skin on your face that looked like a second head might emerge from under your skin possibly.
3. Unfortunately, the peeling skin will apparently take some weeks to calm down. Although not itching, there is a gross factor.
4. When you have an ear infection (or two - one in each ear), it might not actually hurt. The only sign might be a fever and feeling tired.
5. When being evaluated for a kidney transplant, they test a lot of things. You'll be happy to learn I tested negative for all sorts of drugs and various infections. So I have broken kidneys and zombie skin, but there's a really long list of things I DON'T have.

In between medical events, I did travel to and return from Asia/New Zealand. The work portions of my trip were super productive. I can't say enough how invaluable face to face meetings are where people get to experience others' actual local context. Wycliffe colleagues in Asia and Papua New Guinea are doing some impressive things under some challenging circumstances. I was also encouraged by the shared values/principles and approaches among all of us. I think that's a neat thing that God is doing having us function as a unified team.

The vacation portion of my trip is when various skin and other things happened. Bali Indonesia is where my meetings were: the original purpose of my trip to which I added on visits to Manila and Papua New Guinea for work and vacation in Sydney and Auckland. The rash outbreak was at its worst in Auckland. I really wanted to announce to people not to be afraid. Luckily it was fall so I was fairly covered up. Mainly just my swollen, red-spotted hands were potentially frightening to the people of Auckland. (Sorry people of Auckland). Guess what else happened in Auckland? Did you guess I went to an ATM to get cash and I received a receipt... and no cash. The very nice BNZ (Bank of New Zealand) people explained to me ... upon learning that not only was I not a BNZ customer, my bank was in the US... that "this will be fun". Apparently my bank has to initiate something and then hopefully the BNZ ATM machine will be \$100 NZD to the good and all will be sorted.

Anytime you need either an update on my medical escapades AND/OR pictures of either travels or skin conditions, just let me know.

For Prayer:

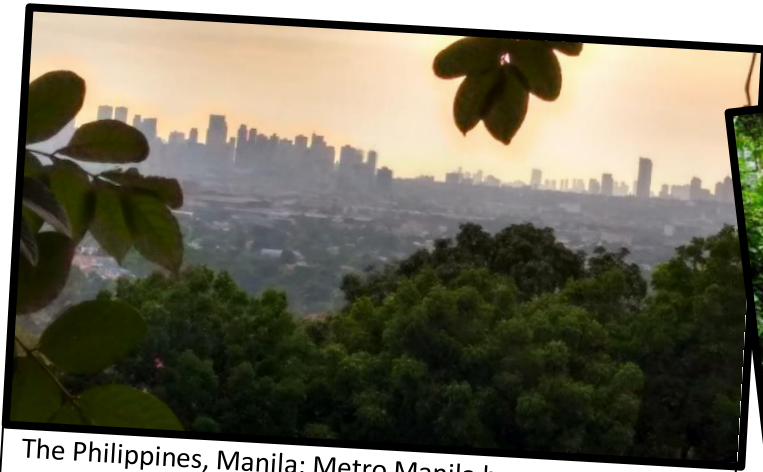
- Thank God for IT staff working as a team
- Healing for my broken kidneys and zombie skin and whatever else physically broken with me
- New staff have arrived at work. And several more are raising support and another is considering moving into our department. Thank God for workers He provides.
- Thank God for the tremendous number of people and effort involved in Bible translation today... looking toward the day when everyone has access to God's Word in their own language!

Sheryl Howe

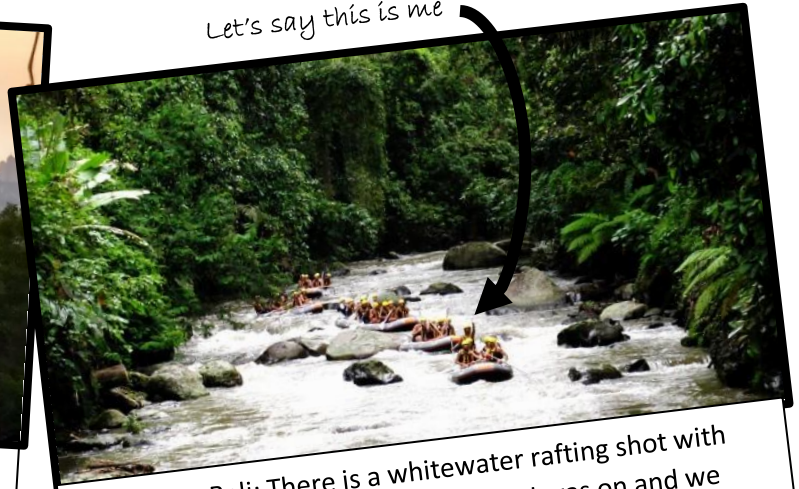
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Three ways to give:

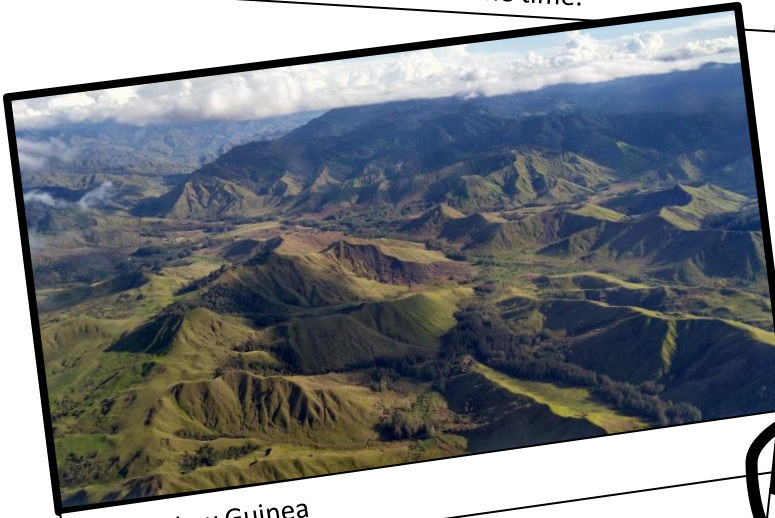
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The Philippines, Manila: Metro Manila has more people than the entire country of Australia... and they all seem to be out driving in traffic at the same time.



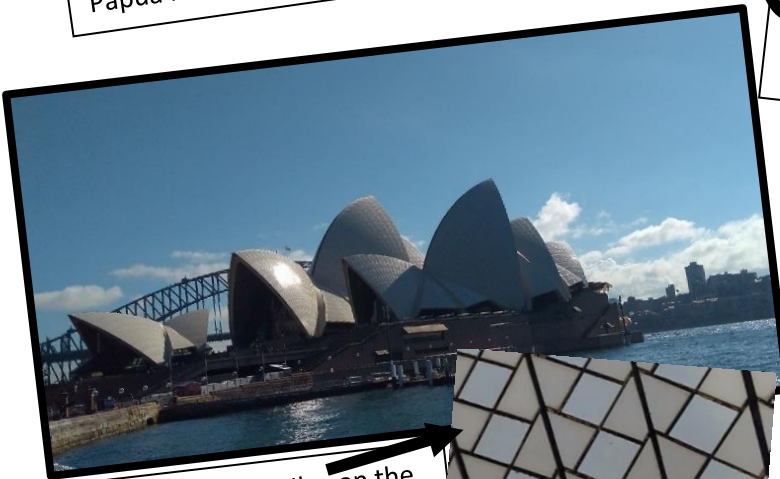
Indonesia, Bali: There is a whitewater rafting shot with me in it. This is the river I was on and we could just pretend it's me on one of the boats in this shot.



Papua New Guinea



Papua New Guinea: A LOT of people (groom's family) plus the gifts to the bride's family in that pile (produce plus MANY live chickens) came out of ONE small minibus.



Australia, Sydney: Tiles on the Opera House roof are different shades of off-white; white tiles would be blinding in the sun.



New Zealand, Auckland: Maori people, pictures do not even capture how cool this performance was. Add "Plan your NZ trip to include Maori cultural performance" to your to-do list if you have never been.