



# Steve & Cindy Brogden

MISSIONARIES IN

## VAVA'U, KINGDOM OF TONGA

September/October Prayer Letter

### *Supporting Friends,*

As always, we are grateful for your continued, prayerful and financial support for the ministry here in the Kingdom Of Tonga. Your faithfulness is what keeps us on the firing line for the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Religion: Something that starts on the outside and tries to work its way inside. Salvation: Starts on the inside and works its way outside.

*"Woe unto you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness." Matthew 23:27*

Our biggest foe here in Vava'u is religion. On Sundays, almost everyone attends church. Everyone dresses in nice attire, a mix of traditional and modern clothes. All commercial business is closed, no swimming is allowed, and it's against Tongan law to fish on Sundays. Sunday is wholly given to observing the "Lords Day." Just as it used to be in the U.S.A many years ago. The Tongan Ministers (Faifekaus) read prayers out of a book, pray long prayers, preach "good works" out of the Gospels, follow tradition, and baptize babies. The Tongan Islands are full of look good and feel good religion. Jesus said they are graves full of dead men's bones.

Family and religion go hand in hand here. Even though many Tongans agree with our gospel witness, breaking free of religious tradition is very difficult. The interceding work of the Holy Ghost, and the faithful prayers of many is the only hope for Tonga.

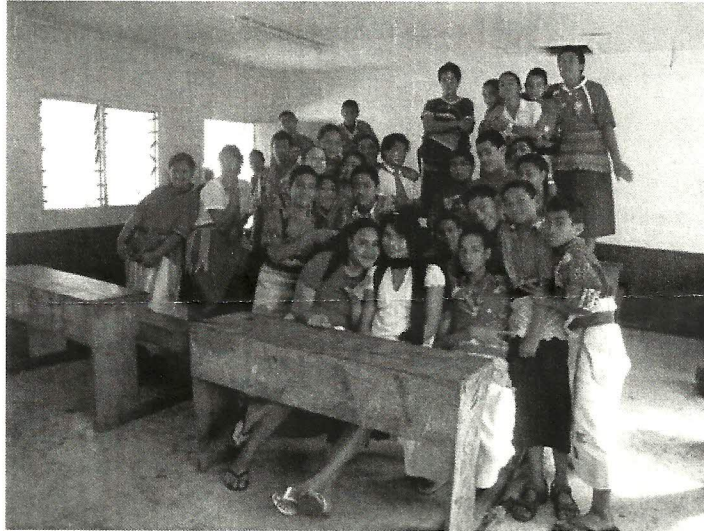
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Every week we preach in the schools endeavoring to reach an upcoming generation with the Word Of Life, while condemning the damnation of religion. Pray with us that this open door will continue and fruit will be manifested.

Language study continues. I invited a young man over to our house for a meal, using my Tongan language skills. I thought I did well, until he said I invited him over to eat my house. lol!

A note from Cindy: I want to thank those of you that remembered me in prayer while I was in the States caring for my sick father. He is in rehab and getting stronger. While away, my language studies took a nose dive and it has been difficult for me to get back into the swing of things. Hopefully, this "old" mind of mine will kick back in eventually, but it may just be a losing battle!

*On the firing line for the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Steve and Cindy Brogden*