

Alaina Hepworth

From: Jason Ottosen <kameabible@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 12:22 AM
Subject: Ottosen's January Update

January 2022

Our communication options in the jungle have dwindled to text-based emails via satellite modem. Due to these ongoing challenges of our location, this update is delayed. Please forgive the tardiness of this update as we know many prayerfully intercede for the affairs of ministry here. We are thankful to have begun the process of ordering a dependable satellite dish.

September

Our church did some preliminary work in checking the first two chapters of Mark's gospel translated into the Kamea language by the fervent efforts of leaders in our sister church in Kotidanga Village: Pastor Ben, Brother Yali, and Missionary John Allen. Yali, came here to Komako Village to be a help as we began reviewing verse by verse. Please continue to pray that the translation will be checked, completed, and used by the Kamea people until Christ's return.

Our family was able to go to town for a supply run and a small break in September. We were surprised when all six of us came down with Covid symptoms. Although none of us had a serious case, it did take a toll on our bodies and Jason developed pneumonia. We are all grateful as God granted our recovery. Every time we have been struck with an illness for the past two years, we prayed, wondering if it was Covid related or not, while having no medicine or testing available in the jungle. The first time we needed medical assistance was while we were in town with functioning medical facilities. We praise the Lord for the truth the psalmist spoke, "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee."

October

Upon our arrival back home, our church family was busy amid preparations for hosting a revival meeting. In all we had about seventy-five guests who traversed rugged mountains to come to Komako, the longest hiking about sixteen hours to spend three days with us. All Kamea ministries were represented at the meeting. It really gave us a larger burden for the work here and a good vision as we press forward in what God has called us to. The Lord blessed the meeting. We saw eight saved and many impacted through the preaching of God's word. The Lord gave us a perfectly timed window of beautiful weather. The day after our guests left the weather shifted into the wet season which has not stopped. Our rain tanks overflow regularly.

Days following the revival meeting a church member was confronted by a large group of Seventh Day Adventist (SDA) strongly pushing their doctrine. Despite their attempt to intimidate and publicly demean Rafor, he gave biblical responses and stuck by it. As a result of this, Jason arranged a public discussion with the leaders of the SDA church. After the meeting was rescheduled three times, it was eventually cancelled by the other party a day before it was scheduled to take place. At first, we were very disappointed at the loss of the opportunity to

publicly refute this false doctrine. But over the past several weeks we have seen the Lord use Jason's preaching in the open market in ways a discussion with the leaders would not have allowed.

After preaching, Jason holds an open question and answer time and through this he has been able to repeatedly proclaim the truth of the gospel. Some questions posed by people have given us a deeper understanding to their false interpretation of Scripture, the false doctrine they have been taught, and other questions show searching hearts. During such a discussion a village magistrate, named Geson, loudly said that he came to listen in order to hear the TRUTH. Please pray for physical safety and salvations as we earnestly contend for the faith.

The door for us to teach in the government school here remains open. Cherith has been teaching about thirty teenage ladies and Jason's class reaches close to fifty. As we teach through the Bible chronologically, the lesson on Sodom and Gomorrah really gave us the opportunity to impress on our students that the payment for sin is death. The following week we followed up with a clear plan of salvation. Although no decisions were made, the students listened very attentively. The school year is now closing here, but we look forward to continuing this ministry next year.

November

This month we rejoiced at the considerable growth in our church family, both numerically and spiritually. I would like to quickly mention two families. Rafort believes God has called him to preach and we have been meeting weekly to prepare for ministry opportunities. His nephew, Otto, and his young wife, Filene, have become amazingly faithful to the Lord Jesus and have shown a continual thirst for God's word. Otto has joined the weekly men's training group with Rafort. Filene has met with Cherith and our national pastor's wife many times and her fervor for souls encourages us all.

December

Tadios has been involved with our church since its inception. We have tried to help for some time since hearing frequent complaints of domestic abuse reported by his family. We also discovered he has been involved in sorcery and has kept people away from attending our church. We seek the Lord's wisdom as we move forward with church discipline. His family is concerned that he will retaliate violently. We pray as the Lord leads him towards repenting of his actions, reconciling with his family, and being restored to fellowship with the church.

The Kamea Literacy Class is progressing nicely. Students are now composing simple sentences in written form. One of the students, although having learned all the letters, is not able to read. He has such a burning desire to see people receive Christ that he copies Bible verses on small pieces of paper. He then gives it to his neighbors as he verbally shares the gospel. He may not be able to read what he writes, but he hopes it will help people get saved.

Our family intends on coming back to the USA for a short furlough this June. If any churches would like us to give a report while in the country please send us a simple text email at ottosen@myiridium.net.

Prayer needs:

1. For more souls to respond in faith to the gospel.
2. Continued spiritual growth of those in Komako Village.
3. God's sustaining grace with health challenges: Cherith is experiencing ongoing back pain, Jason is having sporadic heart discomfort, and our children as they are exposed to a variety of tropical diseases regularly.
4. God's leading with all the specifics of our upcoming furlough this year.

In His Service,

Jason, Cherith, Grace, Melody, Hannah, and Josiah