

Reaching the Kamea of Papua New Guinea

June 2022

We have long thought a library would be a great asset to our church as people transition from an oral culture and being largely illiterate to becoming students of the Bible. Jason visited the warehouse of a large Christian book publisher and bought almost every title available in the Melanesian Pidgin language. The excitement of our people was almost palpable once they saw those books on display. The choices include Christian biographies, Bible studies and practical helps. We trust the library will encourage everyone to continue in the faith.

A financial gift also allowed for the purchase of a satellite dish which provided reliable internet service for the first time in our village. Subsequently airplane tickets were purchased for our trip to America.

Now with the date of our departure from Papua New Guinea set, we had to tie up many loose ends. We completed the first portion of Kamea Literacy Course just a week prior to our leaving, concluding with a graduation ceremony. Cherith worked diligently, wrapping up our girl's homeschooling just days before our flight out. Our house had to be organized, a list of needed supplies was compiled, the water tank cleaned out, and extra items were sold at a garage sale type event.

Rafort has surrendered to the gospel ministry but his wife is resistant to him serving God. Consequently an application was lodged for their family to attend a Bible college ran by missionaries in an adjacent province. Hopefully Rafort can begin Bible school in 2023.

The church was left in the hands of Pastor Jack Naudi. Violence seems more prevalent in our village than before, so please pray for Jack's family to be safe and that no one would attempt to steal our solar panels and belongings while we are gone. Also ask the God to direct Pastor Jack

with decisions and to keep the flame for lost souls blazing in his heart.

Normally we fly eastward, docking shortly in Australia before flying over the Pacific to Los Angeles. Due to rising costs, pandemic restrictions and other complications we decided to fly via Singapore and Qatar en route to Philadelphia.

After waiting a few days on the coast for our international flights, we had negative covid test results, and boarded for our first flight to Singapore. After landing there, we slept of few hours at the hotel inside the international airport before taking a second flight to Qatar in the middle east. We then took a 14 hour flight to Philadelphia. In all, we landed in the USA 37 hours after departing Papua New Guinea's shores. There are tears shed every time we leave our home village, but we anticipate returning to PNG in January.

We had regular chores to accomplish once in Ameria like renewing my driver's licence, getting a van that would suit our travels and seeing doctors. We saw Missionary Scot Daku's family for a short time before they returned to their field, Fiji. We rejoice to see fellow missionaries being able to travel as Pacific countries reopen to international passengers.

Jason flew out California for a few days to see his family. His Grandmother Joyce turned 90 this year and Jason enjoyed the quality time spent together with Grandma Joyce and his parents. He also enjoyed the company of a few pastors standing by God's word in California. Jason has a burden for his home state and has deep admiration for churches striving to reach souls for Christ.

Our first road trip lasted two weeks and included the states of Michigan, Indiana, and Pennsylvania. It was a joy to see long-time friends and to make new ones. We were humbled by the care shown us by our hosts. We visited Fairhaven Baptist College outside of Chicago. The staff was extremely kind and the school facilities were impressive. We keep our eyes open to potential schools for our children later down the road.

In His Service,

Jason, Cherith, Grace, Melody, Hannah and Josiah

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