



The Ottosens Reaching the Kamea of Papua New Guinea

August 2025

Our Lord Provides Safety

Recently our family walked to a local market while I was teaching a Bible class in our village. A man armed with a long machete held them up. His intention was to steal our mobile phone threatening to cut them if they did not cooperate. He patted down one of our daughters and said he wanted to marry her. Thankfully, everyone escaped without any physical harm and our community searched for the fleeing rascal. He was identified and apprehended by reserve police the next day. After admitting his wrong-doing, Sebet was charged for the offense.

Law enforcement in our village is a ludicrous ordeal. No one has the jurisdiction to jail or hold a suspect, and he was immediately released. No one has the authority to enforce charges either so the mock hearing and financial charge he was given has no effect. Meanwhile Sebet grew angry for being publicly identified and humiliated. We later heard rumors that he and a gang of ruffians wanted to attack me and the policeman that was trying to uphold a semblance of law. Our family was unsettled by the unresolved issue not knowing his location or when he might return. We felt trapped while Sebet was free to roam unrestricted. We were deeply grateful no one was injured through the whole ordeal and have kept it as an on-going matter of prayer.

The Lord Will Build His Church

The new church in Iwaina Village is growing. Shortly after the attack our evangelistic group hiked to Iwaina. Upon summiting the final mountain ridge of the trip, overlooking Iwaina's valley, I was approached by a suspicious, machete-wielding character. It was Sebet. It was an opportunity to present the gospel, so I took it. Sebet said in response, "I am controlled by evil spirits." At this time I had not heard about his threats to "take care of me." Yet, the Lord preserved me from harm and He has work to be accomplished in Iwaina. I found out Sebet's village is a short jog from our new church plant. Men from Komako have taken upon themselves to act as my security detail, accompanying me every trip while carrying their own machetes, bows and arrows.

We have broken ground in Iwaina. A new house and church building are being constructed. Preacher Raftor and Stanford alternate each week, visiting the village to preach the word and encourage new believers. Our construction crew are being inundated with Bible truth and four have gotten saved in the last two weeks. Pray as our family is flying out in two weeks to teach and preach at the Wau Bible School. Delegating responsibilities to men that have been saved, baptized and disciplined through our ministry. Now they are tremendous partners with us in the gospel ministry. We will post updated pictures in our next prayer letter.

In His Service,

Jason, Cherith, Grace, Melody, Hannah and Josiah

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