The Ottosens

Serving in

Papua New Guinea



September 2026

Watershed Moments

When we started ministry fourteen years ago our main goals were to reach souls with the gospel, making them into disciples of Jesus Christ and preparing them to walk by faith until Christ's return. We have seen God redeem many, build two independent Baptist churches, and equip men He called to carry the ministry forward. During this last three year term on the field, I have witnessed increased growth of national leadership. Our brethren have developed as soul-winners, teachers, and preachers.

Since we returned to the USA for furlough, PNG ministry has continued to go well. Pastor Jack organized a conference to strengthen believers near Komako village. Different churches participated and new people were added to the Lord! This event was organized, funded, and carried out without my help. If I were present, Pastor Jack would have relied on my involvement, but he has matured as a godly leader. This is another example illustrating how our friends have grown into an indigenous and independent congregation. It has subsequently become apparent that our full-time participation in the jungle is coming to a close. Missionaries' goal is to work themselves out of a job.

Transitioning to Town

My family visited different provinces and found that many locations are in want of a church and a multitude of existing churches lack pastoral leadership. Imagine your church not having a pastor, deacon or trained teacher for months or years at a time. As a result, we frequently hear of brethren leaving church like sheep without a shepherd and falling prey to lurking cults.

As a church-planting missionary my personal burden is to continue evangelizing our communities and establishing new churches. Yet with the urgent need for leaders I intend to increase my efforts in training nationals. The best path to accelerate that process is to start a Bible College. While surveying prospective towns, we interviewed veteran missionaries and were stirred by the earnest pleas of national pastors for us to consider needy fields in their area. We are waiting on the Lord to direct us to the next location to base ministry from.

Next term we plan on returning to Komako. Two men, Rafort and Stenford, have been faithfully ministering at the new church-plant and are on track to be ordained. After a few months we will relocate to a town and take the steps needed to start a Bible College.

Moving to town after living in the remote jungle will be a huge change. We may need to lease a property, purchase a vehicle, and build a house. We trust the Lord will provide the wisdom, direction, and resources required as we make this transition. Please pray with us for upcoming decisions and for our children to adjust well.

Many heard of Melody's recent concussion after falling from her bicycle. We praise God her condition has improved and expect a full recovery.

We have updated prayer cards and a new ministry video. If you are interested in either, please contact me by email. Pray with us for upcoming decisions, traveling mercies, and for new churches to take us on for support.

In His Service,

Jason, Cherith, Grace, Melody, Hannah and Josiah

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