



## Finding His Rest in the journey

I have been reading through the book of Hebrews of late and it never seems to challenge my thinking in the whole area of rest (Heb 3,4). All of the children of Israel came out of Egypt and went on a long difficult journey to the promised land. In the end they never entered, and enjoyed, the rest that God had for them. The writer of the book of Hebrews charges us to fully enter this rest. The question is...do we actually do this? During busy months like this one I find myself struggling at times to leave the Jordan and fully walk in the promises that He has for me.

This month started out with me filling in for the 7/8 grade Bible teacher. It was unknown how this was going to turn out but I have been really encouraged by my time with those 16 young men. We have a good curriculum that is focusing on developing their character. We just tackled Integrity and next week is Humility. Daniel is in this class which also makes it fun. It also means that I know when he doesn't get his homework done. :-)

All three of our boys needed to get their US passports renewed this month but as some of you may know (a bit of sarcasm) the US gov't hasn't been functioning too well of late. What this meant was that instead of the US consular officer coming to Lapilo (which had been planned) we had to travel down to the capitol and visit the embassy. Our mission plane took a full load of people down for this purpose and we were able to get everything done rather quickly but it wasn't cheap. We leave these things in the Lord's hands as we certainly have no control over the US gov't.

On the 17th I was able to fly in to the Wantakia tribe for a consultant visit. My fellow consultant, Jeremiah Markley, and I were able to give 4 evaluations over the long weekend and we are happy to say that two more members of the team there are finished with culture and language study. 4 done and the other two members of the team won't be long before they are done as well. It is so exciting to be able to have a small part in seeing the Gospel brought to this location. The literacy program will be starting up soon and teaching could start the end of this year or the beginning of 2020. The picture above is from one of these evaluations.

Thanks so much for all the ways that all of you are a blessing to our family. We are thankful and honored to be in ministry together.

Blessings,

Eric and Judith, Stephen, Daniel and Timothy

### Flight booking story:

This past week the national air carrier was offering a big discount on all airline tickets. I went to book part of our tickets online but it wouldn't take my credit card. Rather annoying. I took my booking and went to the local Air Nuigini office in town and was waiting for 1.5 hours to actually see someone to run my credit card for payment. A friend of mine was doing the same thing but he was ahead of me and it was taking a long time for him to get things processed. While I was waiting for him I decided to call Judith at home and have her double check a different site online. She did so and we actually found some alternative tickets which saved us about \$550. Needless to say I promptly stepped out of line and headed home. We now have our e-tickets for those legs of our journey. God is good!



The 7/8 grade boys are a fun bunch to teach and not surprising they always seem to have plenty to say.



Daniel just became the second Hedeem boy to become a teenager. We had one of his friends over with their family this last Friday night. Pizza, home-made ice cream and great fellowship.

### Prayer Requests

- Please be praying for my last week teaching in the school. You can also be praying for the boys and their schooling.
  - Praise that Stephen made the varsity basketball team.
- On February 5th I will be flying in to Malaumanda for 16 days of translation work, possibly some teaching and certainly some discipling. Pray for Judith and the boys during this time too as that is a bit of a long stint away.
- Praise that we finally have all of our tickets back to the US booked. Look below for an interesting story of God's direction.
- Continue to pray for Judith as she is working in the Medical clinic, sitting on the school management team and being out and about encouraging the ladies around here.
- Please be praying for our upcoming home assignment. We have two specific prayer requests. One is for a vehicle; preferably a minivan. The second request is for opportunities to share in churches and Sunday school classes. The Lord is doing amazing things here in PNG and we would love to inform and challenge people as to how they can be involved.
- We as a family are wanting to go to our annual conference this year in March. Please be praying for all of the details that need to come together in order for us to go.