

The Ottosens Reaching the Kamea of Papua New Guinea



September 2024

Our family has been happily engaged with homeschooling our children and teaching our church

through literacy and Bible classes. The Bible School enrollment is high for our current courses: Old Testament Survey, Life of Christ and Doctrine. Many of the students have said their faith has grown as they read the Bible and study. The main goal is to better equip them to walk with the Lord, become soul-winners and serve through ministry opportunities. Our prayer is their hearts and ears will be ready as God calls some to become future pastors or teachers.

The church-planting focus in Wemauwa village has seen fruit despite increasing opposition. The evangelism team (Bible school students) conducts spiritual conversations and hand out gospel tracts while Jason preaches in the market. If anyone had an open hand or pocket, they were given a tract. A man, cold and sinister, came by night to berate and threaten our group for being in Wemauwa. Later we were told that he is a church member by day and a vexing witchdoctor by night. This man also vandalized a new believer's home. The team expected the devil would attempt to stop the Lord's work and took strength in God's might and goodness. Despite mounting pressures, many new people attended our services and three more people called upon Jesus Christ for salvation.

Numerous small parcels of land were offered for building a new church in Wemauwa. After getting saved, an elder of the community offered us a claim on the mountainous valley that belongs to his family (over a square mile in area). Unfortunately, that site would better serve as a wildlife preserve than church property with its dense forest and rugged landscape. We are still searching for a suitable location to break ground.

Our family travelled to the Bible School in Wau for two weeks. Jason taught through the book of Romans and Cherith taught ladies groups in the area. Rafort, one of

our men from Komako, is graduating from there in December. He will be a great help with expanding church-planting efforts when he returns home. Please pray for the Wau Bible School as a group of Chinese gold-miners has commandeered some of their property. Court authorities have gotten involved and we pray this matter can be settled promptly.

We wanted to say thank you to all those that sent birthday cards. Grace turned 13, Melody is 11 and Hannah is 8. Josiah is our only child without a birthday in September. No one felt it as keenly as he while his older sisters received cards, cake, and presents. With mild distress he lamented, "Why does everyone grow up so much faster than me?"

October 2024

Our church hosted our first Revival Meeting. A national Pastor was invited to be the keynote speaker and the preaching was both challenging and helpful. Six people were saved, new visitors attended and many decisions were made by our church family. After gaining the experience of hosting a meeting, we are planning a larger meeting next year.

While we have been focussing on Wemauwa village, God continues working in unexpected ways: five separate villages have asked us to come and minister to them as well. Iwaina is one of those places. Jason stayed in Iwaina village many times over the years but previously there had been little response. Their community sent an official request for us to come and build a mission base there. They have reportedly set aside property and began clearing it of trees and brush. Our evangelism team heads there this week.

Prayer needs:

1. Lost souls in Iwaina and Wemauwa village.
2. Men to answer God's call to ministry.
3. Our family's health.

In His Service,

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

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