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Recess at Wario School

Dear Friends,

Being prosperous in the material realm is desirable to folks the world over including those living in Papua New Guinea. In isolated enclaves of the country different cargo cults have started and faded only to be superseded by another yet variation which promise sure results. Some of these cults originated after World War II when people saw hundreds of planes and ships unload massive amounts of goods and cargo and then after it stopped- people wanted the good times to return and so “religious” rituals were invented to make this happened. All have failed despite the fervency of the believers.

One challenge proclaiming the gospel in PNG is to pass along it’s true essence to those listening. Becoming a Christian and following Scripture’s commands does not guarantee health, wealth, and prosperity in this world. Nor does joining the latest or fastest growing denomination give anyone worldly certainties.

The first chapter of James speaks to this situation. “Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. ¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. “

Good gifts from the Father of lights who is eternally unfailing and consistent include: wisdom (James 1:5), salvation (Eph. 2:8-9), eternal life (Rom 6:23), and the fruit of Spirit (Gal 5:22). God gives what we need which does not always match what we like or want. May we all like David say: “Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, PS 103:2

This month thousands of books for Religious Education are being distributed to High Schools around the country. The second week of June, Eric Schering will have an opportunity to meet with even more High School headmasters who work in the Rabaul area of the East New Britain province and show them the published materials available for their schools. We thank the Lord for opening these doors of opportunity to be a positive influence in so many students’ lives.

Thank you for your support of Pacific Island Ministries.

Yours in Christ,
Douglas Heidema

Teachers loading school supplies.

