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On any weekday a steady flow of young people going to school cross over the village bridge in Tongajamb. A PIM school is near the bridge and playing a role in building a foundation for students' futures.

Dear Friends,

PIM's Christian schools have been active since the 1970s and thousands of children have started their education in them. Our teachers have had a part in sowing "seeds" of the Christian faith in students' lives. We know from the parable of the Sower, that not all seeds fall into the good soil. However, some seed do and former students are walking in the Christian faith. We are thankful and joyful for God's work in their lives.

We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. (Ephesians 2:10)



A white cuscus being walked by the tail to prevent it's escape to the trees. When approached for a close-up picture, it was not happy and growled.

Any nation or society which has a strong Christian influence becomes an attractive and better place to live. Scripture tells us that righteousness exalts a nation. Yet if people just give lip service to following God's commands and ordinances unrighteous behavior, evil, and corruption will increase.

PNG holds elections this year. Parliamentary seats with a five-year term often have over 20 candidates competing. Voters are given three votes first, second, and third choice candidate. If there's a majority winner when counting the first votes, they win. However, more often they count the second votes and then third votes eliminating the lowest candidates each round. The counting takes over a week.

Many villages have "a favorite son" and their expectations for their candidate border on him being a Messiah. Realistically it doesn't work out like that in PNG or any other country. Of those elected to serve, some are moral and others are not. All elected politicians being humans are subject to temptations which are amplified for those in positions of power.

Firstly, we pray that Godly candidates are elected and that they remain so while serving. Secondly, supporters of losing candidates do not resort to violence harm others or property.

Yours in Christ.

Douglas Heidema