



PO Box 1765, Grass Valley, CA 95945

530-272-8170

www.piministries.info office@piministries.com

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Dear Friends,

First impressions frequently do not match reality. A short-term volunteer took video of several children playing a game, and while recording he spoke in glowing terms, “these children are always happy, they never cry or argue”. Those comments certainly needed modification at a later date. A common misconception of the “Noble Savage” whose life is free from disease and the difficulties of modern industrialized life has permeated deeply into American culture and media. In reality, people are

people no matter where you go. In the world there are places more peaceful and easier to live in than others. However, with less than perfect people a paradise without difficulties and troubles cannot be found in this world.

Churches and missions have proclaimed the good news to people in PNG and the transforming power of the gospel has impacted the lives of many in PNG! Through the work of the Holy Spirit, some of the hearers have responded, and begin to mature in their Christian walk and are looking forward to the return of Christ. Since its formation in 1977, PIM has planted the seeds of God’s word. This year alone over 2000 students are enrolled in Christian elementary education with 50+ teachers. A good share of the curriculum used in the lower grades is produced by the mission. Other literature by the mission is for Sunday schools, churches, and used for religious instruction in Public High Schools around the country by over 30,000 students. We rejoice for the opportunities the God has given. Hearts can change by hearing the gospel!



The reality is we deal with people including ourselves who have a fallen sin nature. Just as the parable of the sower indicates, not all the seeds germinate, continue to grow and get to the harvest. The world created good by God has been poisoned by evil. Some mess is not a pretty picture, as we were recently reminded in the case of a widowed female employee of the mission. She unknowingly remarried a man with a history of domestic violence. Two of his former wives died early. After a brutal domestic assault, she found safety by moving onto the mission property in Ambun. The man is alluding police arrest and has threatened to kill her and retaliate against the mission for interfering.

Domestic violence frequently is heard of in PNG, yet this is one of the rare messes it has come close to PIM. We could do nothing and watch evil prevail or we can assist those who are in the midst of trials to the best of our ability. Ultimately knowing that, "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places." Ephesians 6:12

A real crocodile with mouth tied shut at the Sepik Crocodile Cultural show

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND PRAYERS

Micah Aime a PIM office employee leading the youth group at church.

In Christ,

Douglas Heidema

