



PO Box 1765, Grass Valley, CA 95945

530-272-8170

[www.piministries.info](http://www.piministries.info) [office@piministries.com](mailto:office@piministries.com)

April 2024

Dear Friends,

Two weeks before Easter, an invitation was extended to speak at a four-day gathering of three villages. Young people and adults filled the church pews with over sixty school age children sitting in front on the cement floor



of the church. For this special occasion the church was decorated with extra flowers and hanging palm fronds, for the music they had also borrowed some instruments and an amplifier.

Preparing seven sermons centering on the death and resurrection of Christ in two weeks required much supernatural help! Yet it was a poignant reminder to me that the pastors in remote villages have little access to the resources that I do. No computer with a dozen or more Bible translations, commentaries, books, or the internet for study. Even Apostle Paul had some things he liked to use for his study. 2 Tim 4:13 *When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments.* Churches in the large cities of Papua New Guinea have ordained pastors who have been

trained at seminaries or Bible Schools. However, in small villages this is not the case. A large number of pastors or church workers have little or no formal training. A small village church cannot financially support their pastor much less a library of books; often the wife of a pastor supports the family with her hard work gardening, fishing, or selling market goods.

Considering these critical needs of pastors, PIM has provided courses in Ambunti for a growing number of participants. This April, the largest yet, had ninety-five pastors and church workers who filled every table in the training center. Ray Wangimbi (our PIM church department coordinator -see picture below) Rev. Melvin Dotinga, Pastor Festus Lakir, Issachar Meikwar, Alan DeYoung and Rev. Eric Schering taught on subject matter including church history and creeds, fruit of the Spirit, Christlike leadership, time use and management, a study of I John, and a Bible timeline study. Attendees received PIM published books, printed handouts, commentaries, and some even received a pair of reading glasses from PIM.

The following week there was a second pastors training course by PIM at Brugam Bible School fifty miles north of Ambunti. Thirty-five students currently training at the school were joined by 124 pastors and church workers from two different provinces. The four presenters who went covered much of the same teaching as the week before at Ambunti. Pastors at both locations greatly appreciated the courses, the resources, teaching they received, and being able to fellowship with other pastors. Lastly almost of the pastors at both locations upgraded their Bibles and took advantage of getting two new Melanesian Tok Pisin Bibles for a heavily subsidized price.2 Timothy 4:2 *preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.*

Thank you for your support of Pacific Island Ministries 4



Douglas Heidema