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Dear Friends,

I had never before been in a church service that ended so abruptly! As often happens, apparently a visiting pastor was asked last minute to give the sermon that morning. This guest pastor began preaching, he recited several verses from the Bible, but his applications of these verses were strange as he jumped from passage to passage. It became apparent that his exegesis was filled with the errors of an emerging cultic group called the Tabernacle of David (TOD) When the guest pastor turned to the account of Zacchaeus in Luke 19: 1-10, and stated that, "Zacchaeus was not a short man as the Bible says but a tall man and that the tree was"-his sermon was interrupted by a loud protest from Issachar Meikwar (a PIM employee) and some other persons in the congregation. They shouted "STOP PREACHING THIS UNTRUTH! GET DOWN FROM THE PULPIT NOW!" Thus, the service ended.



According to the guest speaker, he had entered the inner courts of the tabernacle (the Holy of Holies) and his message was from the Throne of God. With those pre-qualifications he expected that he could state any heretic belief because he had a unique and special revelation from God. The Tabernacle of David (TOD) cults tells people to go to graveyards and pray to spirits of the dead to receive material goods. Fortunately, we have the Bible and the Holy Spirit to direct and correct us and are grateful to have mission staff who are truly grounded in the Word.

In March of this year, Issachar Moses Meikwar joined the PIM education department to work with David Kasen in administration. He graduated from High School in 1993 and went on to gain a diploma as a primary school teacher in 1996. After three years he was promoted to head teacher and served with the PNG Education Department in that capacity until 2014.

He and his wife, Elizabeth, then decided to leave teaching in 2015 and attend Christian Leaders' Training College (CLTC) to acquire Diplomas in Ministry. In 2017 they both had field experience at CLTC and in two years completed their Bachelor of Theology degrees. They worked with CLTC for four years, he as a Youth Pastor (2020-2023) and Elizabeth joined the faculty team as a teacher for the Women's Certificate program. He also started on his Masters of Theology, with hopes to complete that degree in the future.

PIM is thankful and looking forward to the contributions of Issachar to our educational program. Recently I found out that much of Issachar's financial support for his education came through Friedemann Urschitz. Friedemann and his family have truly loved the people of the Sepik region with many acts of service and support. Please remember him in prayer as he has just been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and being treated in Austria, thank you for your prayers for his healing and his family.

*1 Chronicles 12:32 Of Issachar; men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, 200 chiefs, and all their kinsmen under their command.*

Yours in Christ,



Douglas Heidema