

Margaret Stringer 60 years in ministry



God saved me when I was 11 years old, and I dedicated my life to be a missionary when I was 12. After graduating from high school, I went to Tennessee Temple University, where I learned a lot about missions and met scads of missionaries from all sorts of ministries and many different places.

In July 1964, I went to “my place,” which at that time had become a part of Indonesia and was Irian Barat, Indonesia – now Irian Jaya or West Papua, Indonesia. During my 40 years and three months there, I never once doubted that I was there in God’s will.

He gave me the almost unbelievable privilege of working in the Citak tribe on the southern coast of Irian Jaya, where I had the joy of reducing the unwritten language to writing and translating the New Testament into two languages – Citak and Tamnim.

In “retirement,” I am keeping busy speaking in churches, Bible Colleges, Christian Academies, Ladies’ Retreats, etc. and participating in the Annual Mission School of Prayer Baptist Mission International which is a joy,

I was privileged to publish one book about the experience with the headhunters, “From Cannibalism to Christianity,” in 1990, and the second edition in 2006. A second book, “Jesus Led Me All The Way,” was published in 2014.

Presenting photos that represent the years of ministry in Irian, Jaya and the creation of the New Testament in the Citak and Tamnim languages.

Kokonao & Amar 1964-1974

The Mimika tribal friends in the villages of Kokonao and Amar



Visiting with ladies on my porch



They loved for me to hold their babies, and I certainly loved to do it.



Welcoming the visit by the General Director of the Mission



This couple adopted me because my nose looked like their dead daughter.



Repairing the airstrip with jungle "wheelbarrow"

Communicating



COMMUNICATING WITH PILOTS AND OTHER MISSION STATIONS

Traveling on the ocean. It would take about 24 hours by canoe to get to the government post. We would sleep on the beach. We kept in touch with other missionaries and the pilots by the land to air radio.

Medical Clinic



People were not allowed to die inside their house for fear of the spirits. They would put them in a leanto usually out on the beach.



Treating a sick baby. I am not a nurse. I could contact our mission doctor on the radio for help as to what to do.

Pulling teeth with pliers. It was an act of mercy as they would cut their teeth out with a knife if it hurt. They loved to have their teeth pulled.



Traveling

We flew into the village by small mission airplane, and then by canoe to visit outlying villages. They usually "invited" me not to help. I destroyed their rhythm.



Senggo 1974-2004



The airstrip is the hospital. The upper arrow is the village of Senggo. The smaller arrow to the right is my house. You can't see my house. There is a path back to it. The arrow bottom left is the village of Tamnim.

Teaching

I taught all age groups - children, women, and young men.



Communication with home base when in the outlying villages



Vakabuis



Pau - Vakabuis chief. He became chief by killing and eating the most people. He was saved about five years from the first visit.



Translating

Translating the Citak New Testament took 20 years and translating the Tamnim New Testament took five years.



Translation helpers - Titus Fiak and Abdon Fiak.



Final reading of the Citak New Testament before sending to the publisher



New Testaments arriving at Senggo. A very exciting day when the first Citak New Testament arrived. They could not all fit on the plane and came in different flights.



Main translation helpers - Titus Fiak and Abdon Fiak.



Presenting the New Testament to General Director



Presenting New Testament to brother Stan

My sincere heartfelt thanks to all of you who loved, supported, encouraged, and prayed for me. God will reward you and I expect to introduce you to many people in heaven who are there because of you.

All praise and honor to the Lord!