

## Prayer update from Rosie PNG Crowter

May 2021

In PNG we often ask for praise and prayer points – so here are some of mine.

**Praise God** for 10 people testifying to Gods work in their lives through baptism in May.

The afternoon before I was asked by Mr David to explain more about baptism. It was a joy to me to see him take this step – along with his young brother. You may possibly recall a picture of his family and having fellowship with them in his house. Thank you if you prayed for him. His wife said she also wants to be baptised.

We had a wonderful day in spite of rain and flooded river! Picture shows the view from top, as didn't trust myself on the slippery path. Afterwards we came back to a meal together in church which was a lovely idea, and something we've not done before.

**Praise God** there are more people, especially students, wanting to be baptised. Pray they will understand clearly the meaning of baptism.

I have the great joy of being asked to follow up with the 7 baptised girls who are first year CHW students. See picture minus the 2 asleep! Several are from Catholic background. We are enjoying meeting together on Sunday afternoons learning how being baptised sadly doesn't wash away our old nature! They were surprised to find they were still complaining and angry. What a long battle it is to put to death the old nature.

**Praise God** that the trainers have been training!



You may remember in December we did a training of trainers' course for **God's Word and culture – sickness and death**. I am so encouraged to hear of the trainers taking the course to their remote districts in their language. With Covid and no MAF it would have been impossible to do this training in any other way.

And every course so far has been well received and challenging. One trainer said '*it was like revival*' – I think that means there were tears of repentance as conviction came. The training has been taken to Ningerum, Honanabi – 3 different local villages, Suabi, Obo, Debepari – first for leaders, and then again for everyone.

Some changes in behaviour are seen, with people who try to do things the cultural way being corrected.

**Pray on for transformation** of lives and for people to leave the wrong spirit beliefs. Pray for those districts yet to have training – especially Rumginae where the strongholds of spirit beliefs threaten to strangle the church and cause suspicion and mistrust. In June the course should go to Lake Murray.

**Pray for Holy Spirit training** by Jennifer and team. Planned in June for women in Kiunga rural, and Ningerum rural. Pray this will be effective in challenging wrong beliefs about the spirits, and replacing with right beliefs about the Holy Spirit.

**Praise God** my friends Jennifer and Asire are starting a **bookstall in Kiunga** once a week to get more resources out to the people and churches of Kiunga. Pray God will use those resources to build His church.

A friend at Balimo has tried for some time to start a bookstore there, and has recently received a grant to start off. She has asked me to send books for a youth convention coming up in July. Hopefully we can find transport.

Thank you if you prayed for openings for the books. And thank you if you prayed for the booklet on Giving. I should soon be printing 'Give God's way', and trust that will be helpful to build God's church.

## What's ahead

**June 7<sup>th</sup>** Meeting at **Rumginae with MAF Country Director** to explain MAF's decision to leave Rumginae as a base and cover from Teleformin. There is a lot of sadness, disappointment, questions and some blaming about that decision, which is to do with finances and lack of pilots. It will be good for the community to hear reasons from the boss Todd. And to hear how MAF hope to continue to serve our communities in the future. For us it was a sudden change of direction, and tears were dropped by the community as MAF cleared out their things. For me I will no longer have a plane in my front garden! 😞



The end of an era!

my house

**June 8-14<sup>th</sup>** **General Executive at Mendi.** Church role book will hopefully be finalised. General Conference in September in Kiunga is going ahead this year, with however many are able to come. The need for a Covid test pre flight has been lifted from MAF so that will make travel easier.

**June 22-26<sup>th</sup>** **Leadership training part 1** for about 30 participants from the different districts. Steven, Pepson, Mase and I will facilitate. I praise God that the facilitators guides are available, and we are choosing which parts to take. The student manual is printed and awaiting transport, so that's another answer to prayer. Please do pray that all the participants will come with prepared hearts, and God will help them to understand and apply the important lessons, beginning with Servant Leadership. We so need to be developing leaders in the North Fly and further afield in PNG. This is a great opportunity to help grow leaders using the DAI Leadership material. Please do pray for this week where we also hope to provide pastoral care and spiritual encouragement.

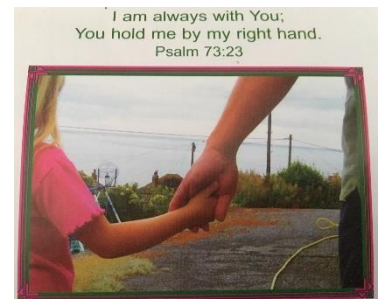
## Covid update

Although Covid is increasing (15,368 with 160 deaths) practically speaking it isn't affecting us much at the moment. It's easy to forget and behave as usual. We still are not testing here at Rumginae and still do not have vaccine available here. Continue to pray for God's protection on us all.

I had hoped to go to Australia for medical review, but the borders are closed to non-Aussies so that's proved impossible. I trust God will continue to heal my bones and hold me by my right hand.

I loved preparing **Ephesians 1:1-14** for bible study.

**All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ.**



Think of some of the amazing spiritual blessings our Father has lavished on us.

**Even before He made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in His eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure. So we praise God for the glorious grace He has poured out on us who belong to His Son. Ephesians 1: 3-6**

Hope you can pause for some moments to reflect on, and relish, all the many many blessings we have **in Christ**. Take time to read the rest of Paul's expressive sentence as he pours out 202 words encouraging us to praise and glorify God and His grace.

I look forward to the next study on **June 6<sup>th</sup>** – a long passage this time, and appreciate your prayers Ephesians 2: 11-3:12. May the barriers between tribes be broken down in practise, as the barriers between Jews and Gentiles were. **Christ Himself has brought peace to us.** We are still in need of peace and unity here. May the walls of hostility, of unforgiveness and bitterness, of jealousy and unresolved rivalry, of suspicion and mistrust, be broken down by Jesus Christ and unity in Him. How that is needed all over this broken hurting world.

Thanks for your prayers and support in many ways

Love **in Jesus Christ**

Rosie

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