The Florences

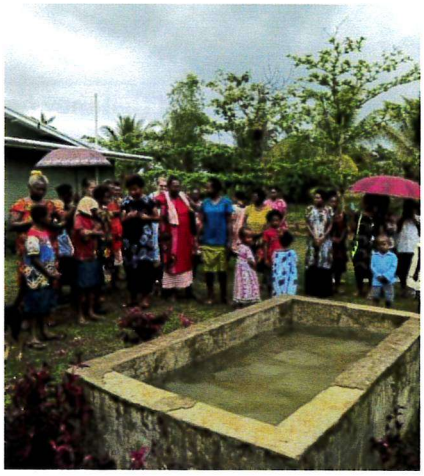
Missionaries serving in Western Province of Papua New Guinea

REJOICING OVER THE FRUIT

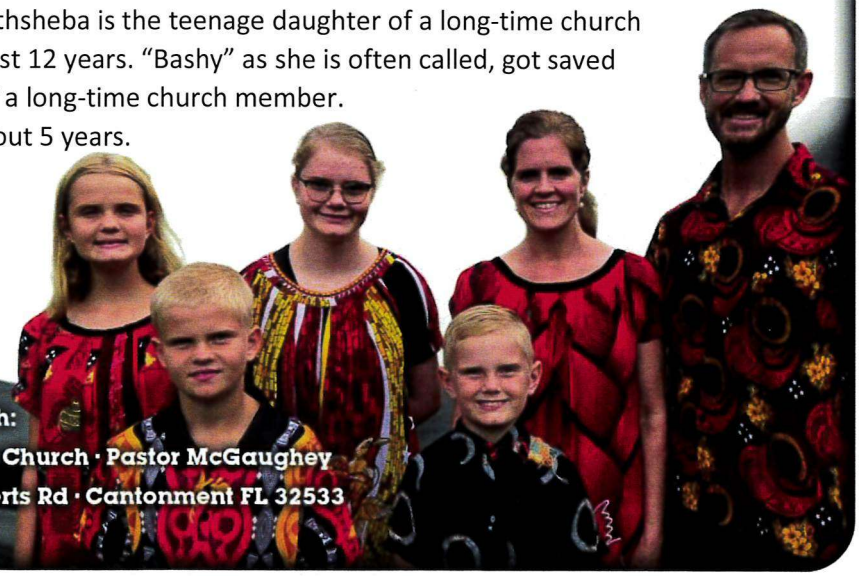
He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, **shall doubtless come again** with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves *with him*. Ps. 126:6 "...that I might have some **fruit among you also**, even as **among** other Gentiles." Rom. 1:13



This month's update is something that I have longed to share for many years. If you have read our updates over the years, then you are aware of how often we report of souls saved and folks baptized. Like every missionary and pastor who believes that Christ died for all and desires all to be saved, I want to see more souls saved in our ministry. However, time and experience have taught me that folks in PNG will very easily pray any prayer that I instruct them to. Folks here are the opposite of Western / European culture when it comes to belief in the supernatural world. PNG folks have always believed heavily in the spirit world and attribute most sickness to demonic activity or curses. For those reasons, I usually wait to report that I have led someone to Christ. Once that person has made the effort to go through the discipleship lessons and follow through with getting baptized, feel much better about reporting it.



Therefore, I am so happy to report on the baptism of 5 new believers this last month. Bro Steri is the grandson of my property manager and student affairs supervisor, Bro Romans. For the last 5 years Steri has been living on our campus and hearing the gospel. He even went through one year of our Bible Institute. Steri got saved last year and has now finished his discipleship course with me. Don is a new first-year Bible Institute student who got saved this year. He went through the discipleship course with his older cousin who graduated last year. Bathsheba is the teenage daughter of a long-time church member. We have known her mom for almost 12 years. "Bashy" as she is often called, got saved recently. Fae is another teenage daughter of a long-time church member. She has also been hearing the gospel for about 5 years. Another miraculous conversion is that of an older lady in her sixties who came from a nearby village.



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She usually walks about 45 minutes one way to attend our services. She called on Christ for salvation after one of our church services and proceeded to go through the discipleship lessons with the other teen girls. These 3 ladies were discipled by a dear, mature lady named Sis Lucy that the Lord brought to help us from a sister church in the capital city. After they each shared their salvation testimony before the church it was such huge blessing to be able to baptize these dear new converts who are also friends of ours.



In addition to these souls that followed through with baptism, we see professions of faith on almost a weekly basis. In the last month we saw 5 children in the elementary school call on Christ for salvation after our Friday chapel services. They were dealt with by counselors afterward and had a clear understanding of the gospel. We also saw 2 men in their 20's call on Christ this week in our evangelistic Youth Outreach we are hosting. We have also seen several young people in the local high school as well as folks in the local prison that acknowledged that they prayed to receive Christ as their Saviour during our invitations over the last month.



On the side of our Christian school, we had a very good "close up" on September 11th. We have one week off during which the country is celebrating their 51st year as an Independent nation. We were happy to see many parents attend the Close Up. Each class made its own presentation of what they learned over the last quarter. I was also able to share the gospel with the whole group. Although we didn't have any respond in the invitation, I know that many of the parents heard the gospel clearly for the first time in their lives.

In closing, I want to share a huge praise and a Thank You to all that contributed towards our container shipping need. The container has already arrived here in PNG and it is in the Capital City awaiting shipping to our town via River Barge. This last leg of the journey will cost roughly $7,000. We know God is able. Praise the Lord!



There is one more special prayer request that we have. This is concerning the El Nino that is affecting all of PNG. It is a severe draught for us. Our rain tanks are empty and we can not get food items from the capital city because the river is too low for the barges to bring in the shipping containers filled with food. As you can see from the photo, the stores are rationing items but they are still sold out. Please continue to pray for rain and special grace to get through this trying time.

As always, we greatly appreciate your love for us and the work here in PNG! May the Lord continue to bless each of you.

Josh, Rebecca, Abigail (15), Ruth (13), Titus (11), Josiah (9)