

The Florence Family

Missionaries to the
Unreached People
Groups of

Papua New Guinea

September/ October '18

However, I saw God do a great work in his life and now he is one of the leaders of the group. Just before I left he broke down in tears as he was saying goodbye. He said, "I should not have been allowed to come to this school (because my educational background). Thank you so much for letting me come and study the Bible. I just want God to use my life for whatever He wants."

"The children are walking!"

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth."
3 John 1:4

First Graduation

Our God is truly amazing to allow us to be a part of His plan to redeem this lost and fallen world. September 9th we celebrated the very first graduation of students from Western Baptist Bible School! Our mission and goal at WBBS is to train young men to preach the Word of God and to live it out in their daily lives. It is especially encouraging to see several young men come, get saved and get a burden to preach the word of God to others. 7 out of the 9 graduates were saved during their time at WBBS and baptized by myself and Pastor Kendy Lamai at Kiunga Independent Baptist Church.

Our very first student to come to the school, Wagiba, completed the full selection of courses available which totalled over 400 hours of classroom instruction. The courses included the Chronological Bible Study Method; Demonology 101; Presenting the Gospel; Christian Marriage and Family 101; 1 Corinthians Expository Study; Preaching through a Book (Nehemiah); Homiletics - How to Prepare Bible Messages; and New Testament Church: Organization, Offices, and Ordinances. The other students completed most of these classes but not all. Many of the students showed a great desire to continue the training upon our return. I thank God 7 of these young men have expressed a strong desire to go into full time ministry in the future. My prayer is that I will be able to assist them in the years to come with starting a church in the area God calls them to.

Deimien, my most improved student, is pictured in the front of this line. He had a hard time catching up the other students because he came later and did not have as much education as some of the others.



National Conference

One exciting opportunity that I had in September was attending the National Independent Baptist Pastor's Conference. This conference is held every year to encourage and challenge the pastors from all over PNG. Well over 300 pastors were in attendance this year and the theme was "World Missions." While there are still many areas in PNG that do not have a clear gospel witness, it was exciting to see these pastors challenging each other follow God's command to "go into all the world and preach the gospel."

Culture Adjustments

My family and I have now safely arrived back in US for our furlough. It has been hilarious to see my children's reactions to American life and culture. Ruth, now five years old, said to me one morning: "Daddy, what is making that weird noise?" I replied, "That is the coffee percolating, dear." Then she looked out the window and watched a trash collector truck pick up the trash outside. "Mommy, there is a big truck outside with a claw on it that is picking up the trash!" Abigail, now 7, has had her own interesting remarks. "Daddy, do all the houses in America have hot water?" "I think so," I replied. One of the funniest just happened this week. Rebecca had put on some dark nylons before leaving the house, not something she did in the humid jungle town we lived in. Upon seeing this Titus, now 3, broke out into almost hysterical screams. "Mommy, I don't want your legs to be black! Change them back!" It took a little while to explain to him what was going on but he still doesn't like them.

Looking Ahead

We are excited that this coming Christmas season we will spend with our families. Beginning next January we will start visiting our supporters as well as any new churches that have interest in our ministry. Please email me (floresces4png@gmail.com) if you would like to schedule us in 2019.

Thanks so much for your continued prayers and support!

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