



# The Snyder Family

## MISSIONARIES TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA

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May 2020

“Though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake...” These are really dramatic and very extreme things, but even if it gets this bad “we will not fear.” Why? Because “God is our refuge and strength and very present help in trouble.” Psalm 46 :1-2 have been very encouraging during this time for us even though our situation is nowhere close to the mountains being carried into the sea. Although not as bad as described above, we still have been going through some difficulties related to Covid-19. We wanted to write to you and thank you for your prayers and support, and to just give you a brief overview and what has been going on and how you can pray for the outcome of some important issues we will be facing in the near future.

**Overview of past:** As many of you know from our email updates, we had to come to Australia for issues with our PNG visa paperwork for two of our children. (Sam’s visa was approved, but not the boys’, even though they are dependents of his. Mary Beth stayed in the bush with Bethany but when border closings were impending, she got the last flight out.) This was not our choice, but we could not stay in PNG due to the government regulations regarding these visa issues. While here waiting for our paperwork to clear, the borders are closed down and there is no international travel at this time.

**Currently:** As the whole world is waiting to see what will happen as things open back up, we are daily looking into border controls and praying for the day to come soon where we can go back to PNG. We have had the opportunity to do some recording of sermons for a local church close to where we are staying in Australia. This has been a blessing. We are also taking the time to study online while we have good internet. Mary Beth has been working very hard to continue homeschooling out of a small apartment that is not our home. It has

been a challenge, but God has been our refuge and strength, and provided our needs. I have also been volunteering around the property to be a help and blessing, but also to get some physical work to break up the waiting a little bit.

**Future:** The problem is, in any country that you are in (that is not your passport country) you need its government’s permission to stay. We came into Australia on a three-month tourist visa, which will expire on June 6. We have applied and paid for an extension, but we have not heard yet if they are going to accept our application to stay longer. Because PNG is closed for international travel, and we don’t have the boys’ visas, the only place we would be able to go would be our passport country, the USA. Please pray that Australia will accept our extension and we will not have to pay for limited flights to fly all the way back to the USA at this time.

### Prayer:

We ask that you pray with us that God’s will would be done and that God will give us wisdom as we make some serious decisions as the next few weeks progress. We want to be wise with our support because many of you have a very large part in giving to our ministry. We want to pause and say thank you for your support both through money and prayer. We would not be this far without your help. So thank you, but we really need your prayer support at this time.

**Contact:** Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns about what is going on. The best way is to email us at [snyder.samandmarybeth@gmail.com](mailto:snyder.samandmarybeth@gmail.com). Then we can get your number and I can call you on your phone number with Skype. That way we don’t have to pay per minute.

Thanks,  
Sam, Mary Beth, TJ, Leland, and Bethany Snyder