



# *Borchard Prayer Letter*

Papua New Guinea

August 2021

Dear Praying Friends,

## ***It Is the Lord's Work!***

Near the end of the apostle Paul's letter to the Romans he shared some prayer requests: "I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf, that I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company." (Romans 15:30-32, ESV) I'm quite sure that when Paul asked the believers in Rome to pray that he would be able to come to them he did not think that God would answer their prayers by having him arrested and transported to Rome by Roman soldiers! God does answer our prayers, but not always, or should I say not often, in the way we are expecting.

I know that the Lord is in charge of the Ipili language work, but I tend to have my own ideas of what I think should happen, and when and how it should happen. But things rarely happen the way I think that they should. You'd think that by now I would have learned that God does things in His own way. Right now, I'm realizing that I need to put the Ipili work in the Lord's hands, and to leave it there.

## ***Mandita and Margret in the Ipili Area***

During April and May a difficult situation came up between Mandita and Margret which kept Margret from doing language work. Through prayer and by meeting with church leaders the situation was eventually resolved and Mandita and Margret were reconciled. ***Please pray that they will be able to work well together, and that the relationships in their family will grow stronger.***

At the end of June Mandita travelled to the translation center at Ukarumpa so I was able to skype with him and Terry Cirre. Mandita reported that he has made good progress on closing in the ceiling and walls of the house/office. He plans to do more work on the house in the coming months.

His efforts to encourage people to use the Ipili Scriptures has been more challenging. Fighting between clans is going on in several parts of the Ipili area which makes it difficult to safely travel to those places. He told me that the police were planning to go to the Paiela district to deal with fighting there, and that he planned to go with them to show videos and to sell audio Scriptures. I just heard from him that he was able to go to the Paiela district and sold 30 audio Bible players there.

He told me that enemies of the Gospel are making it difficult to do the work of encouraging people to use the Scriptures. One need is for church leaders to practice reading the Scriptures so they will be confident to read them in church services. ***Ask the Lord to open the way for Mandita and Margret to visit people to help them to listen to and read the Ipili Scriptures.***



***Mandita With a Box of Audio Bible Players***

### ***My Health Challenges and Plans for Going to Papua New Guinea***

The past several months I've had some digestion problems and difficulty with sleep. I'm doing better now but I feel that I need more strength and stamina. One medical test that I had in June needs to be repeated in December. This made me wonder if I should postpone my trip to Papua New Guinea. I decided that it will make more sense to plan on going to PNG after the beginning of the year. ***Please pray for good health, strength, and stamina for me, and for Mandita and Margret.***

I will continue checking the translation on the computer. I hope to be able to talk to Mandita and Margret sometime so we can discuss the Ipili project. Mandita, Margret, and I all appreciate your prayers for the Ipili work. The Ipili work is in the Lord's hands.

Your Partner in Bible Translation,

*Janet*

#### **Correspondence**

Janet Borchard  
650 Harlow Rd., #139  
Springfield OR 97477  
Home: 541-726-2889  
Cell: 541-579-1467

Email: [Janet.Borchard@LBT.org](mailto:Janet.Borchard@LBT.org) or  
[janet\\_borchard@sil.org](mailto:janet_borchard@sil.org)

#### **Contributions**

Lutheran Bible Translators  
PO Box 789  
Concordia MO 64020  
LBT of Canada 137 Queen St. S.  
Kitchener, ON N2G 1W2  
Designate: *Borchard Ministry*



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