



Borchard Prayer Letter

Papua New Guinea

January 2021

Dear Praying Friends,

When Mandita was in the Ipili area from July through September 2020 some Ipili people gave money to help with building the translation office/house there. Mandita sent me this expression of their thanks:

“On behalf of all the Ipili people we want to thank Janet Borchard and those in charge of Lutheran Bible Translators, USA. Along with the prayer groups and partners you pray and help us by giving money, and so we think of you as parents of our faith. You have given us many things such as the Ipili New Testament, audio Bibles, memory cards, Faith Comes By Hearing Proclaimers, and the Jesus video. Now we see that a building has been built in the Porgera district, and so now we rejoice and thank you very much.”

In my November prayer letter I told you that I was hoping to be able to work with Mandita and Margret on the team check of Exodus chapters 10-14. I am thankful that we were able to work together several times during November using the Skype program. There were two times when the internet connection from Ukarumpa was broken for several days at a time, but otherwise I was very pleased with working over the internet.

The next step is for Mandita to look at comments that Margret and I have put in chapters 15-21 of Exodus, and to make any needed changes in those chapters. Then I will go through his changes to see if there are any more places where the meaning is not yet correct. At that point those chapters will be ready for the team check. ***Please pray for wisdom as we do this work.*** Besides going through Mandita's changes in Exodus chapters 15-21, I plan to continue working on the first advisor check of Exodus chapters 35-40.

There are two verses in Exodus chapter 13 that we still need to finish. They are verses 9 and 16 which both present similar difficulties. In the ESV version verse 9 says “And it shall be to you as a sign on your hand and as a memorial between your eyes, that the law of the Lord may be in your mouth. For with a strong hand the LORD has brought you out of Egypt.” There are several parts to this verse, and we need to make sure that all the parts are in the translation, and that the relationships between those parts are correct and clear. It seems like when we fix one part another part gets messed up.

Margret has gone out to the Ipili area to take care of a family land issue. While she is there she hopes to show the Ipili videos to people. She also plans to work on increasing awareness of the translation work among the people by showing them how we use the Paratext computer program to do the translation. She plans to be there through January. ***We have heard that there is a lack of food in the Ipili area, so ask the Lord to provide for all her needs, and for the needs of everyone there.***

Pray that Mandita will make good progress on the translation in January. He wants to go to the Ipili area to do more work on the translation office/house. I'm guessing that he will want to go in February after he gets all his children into school for the new school year. He has a list of things that he would like to do on the house. ***Ask the Lord to give him and me wisdom about what items should be done on the house.***



*Margret and her baby boy Terry
picture by Adam Boyd*

I am hoping to go to Papua New Guinea sometime in 2021, and to stay there for several months. When I go depends on the coronavirus, and what the clinic doctors at Ukarumpa in PNG say about my going there. Like me, I'm sure that all of you are looking forward to a time when life can get back to being more normal. How blessed we are to know that our lives are in the hands of our loving Lord!

Your Partner in Bible Translation,

Janet

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