



Borchard Prayer Letter

Papua New Guinea

October 2021

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”

Isaiah 55:10-11 (ESV)

“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.” Hebrews 4:12 (ESV)

Dear Praying Friends,

One of our prayer partners recently wrote me an email asking, “Why are the Ipili reluctant to listen to and read the Scriptures?” That was a good question, and maybe one that other people have wondered about. We’ve learned that a lot of Ipili people don’t know that the Ipili translation exists and has been recorded. That is a big part of the work that Ipili translators Mandita and Margret will be doing in the coming months so we can get God’s Word out to more people.

Many Ipili people have never learned to read because they have not been to school, and those who have been to school were taught to read only in English. In the past there have been some Ipili reading classes offered through the social development department at the Porgera gold mine. Those classes used materials developed by my late husband Terry. But it has been a while since those classes were offered. That is why we are planning to have three people go to a course where they will learn how to set up reading programs to teach people to read. Lely and Margret, who are with me in this picture, are two of the people we plan to have take the course. The original plan was to attend the course in 2020, but the course was cancelled for 2020 and also for 2021 because of coronavirus. Now we are hoping the course will be offered in 2022. ***Pray for wisdom and perseverance as Mandita and Margret encourage people to use God’s Word in their own language.***



Lely, Janet, and Margret

In my last prayer letter I mentioned that Mandita was able to go to the Paiela district of the Ipili area to show videos and to sell audio Scripture players. He was able to sell 30 audio players and left 20 more with someone to be sold later. Unfortunately, when he returned home to the Porgera part of the Ipili area he and the other two men who went with him ended up in the hospital. I don’t know why they were all in the hospital, but Mandita was there for two weeks, and part of his problem was pain in his leg. ***Thank the Lord for the healing they received!***

I also mentioned in that letter that I was hoping to talk to Mandita and Margret about the Ipili project. But just as I was ready to set up a time for us to talk, Mandita told me that his phone was ruined because the battery burned. So then I hoped to have Mandita and Margret travel to the translation center at Ukarumpa so we can talk via Skype. While there Terry Cirre would be able to help Mandita get a new phone and set it up so we can communicate when Mandita and Margret are in the Ipili area. But

near the end of September I heard that travel to the province where Ukarumpa is located is restricted because the coronavirus situation has gotten much worse there. So now I'm planning to communicate my thoughts to Mandita and Margret by sending him some emails. That is not as good as having a live conversation, but it will have to do for now. We'll still need to figure out how to get and set up a new phone for Mandita. **Pray for clear communication using email. Pray, too, for the virus situation.**

I've been working with a doctor on my digestive health, and have taken treatments for two chronic infections. **Pray that I will get completely well, and that I will regain strength and stamina.** I am aiming toward going to Papua New Guinea after the beginning of next year. In October I plan to start working on the things that will be required in order to go to PNG. I will continue to work on advisor checking the Ipili translation. **Please pray.**

Your Partner in Bible Translation,

Janet

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