

Greetings from Ukarumpa, Papua New Guinea!

Since our [last update](#), just three more cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in Papua New Guinea. Andrew is now working full-time again, with the Autoshop mostly back to normal. I (Clare) am currently taking a 'staycation' after my intense year as Primary Campus Principal and am glad to be catching up with friends, family, sleep, rest and even housework!

Please keep praying for our colleagues who are attempting to return to Papua New Guinea. They face many coronavirus-related hurdles, including paperwork requirements and reduced travel possibilities. We are praying that the Autoshop will continue to have a manager; the temporary manager is still planning to leave for home assignment and the permanent manager has not yet returned. It's a challenge to prepare for the start of the next school year on 12 August as many of our teachers are currently out of the country. I have offered to teach a class until new and returning teachers arrive.



This photo of Levi's grade 5 class was taken (by Jenise Burgess) almost a year ago. Last month we found ways for the students to have great fun celebrating the end of primary school while maintaining physical distance. In August, Levi (age 11) will start at the secondary campus of [Ukarumpa International School](#). That will be a big change for him, and for all of us!

Below is an essay that Levi wrote for school this last year about the importance of Bible Translation work; we thought you might enjoy reading it. The photos (taken by Susan Frey) are from the Mato New Testament dedication, which took place last year.

Thank you so much for your part in bringing God's Word to the people of Papua New Guinea, whether through prayer, financial giving or encouragement.

Blessings,

Andrew and Clare Koens, with Levi, Heidi and Eowyn



Bibleless People - by Levi Koens

You probably know that many peoples do not have the Bible, and you probably also know that missionaries are working to stop this problem by translating the Bible. But bringing God's word to people is more than just translation, as it is also important that every people group can read and understand their Bible.

Let me tell you about translation. Much of Bible translation is done by missionaries. "How then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in one of whom they have not heard?" (Romans 10:14a) This is a description of why all languages **must** have the Good Book. According to Wycliffe.org.uk : "One in five people are still waiting for a Bible". More people should take part in or donate to Bible translation.



Though Bible translation is important, those newly-translated Bibles are useless unless we make sure that the people receiving them all know how to read their own language! According to uis.unesco.org, 14% of everyone on earth is illiterate (this means they cannot read and write). This may not seem like a lot of people, but it definitely is, and that is a problem. Those people must also learn to be teachers so that future generations will still be able to read. It is just as important that everyone can read the Bible as it is vital that they have it.



Once a people group have God's word and know how to read it, they may still need help understanding the Bible, and knowing how to use it and have church. I asked every 5th grader I could find their opinion, and 100% of them agreed that missionaries should help those who have just acquired the Good Book to understand and use it. These people need to learn how to learn from the Bible. They should also know how to teach their children Bible stories. I think this is a vital step in helping Bibleless peoples.

It is extremely important that every people group has a Bible, can read it, and can understand it. Everyone needs God's word.

Sources:

www.wycliffe.org.uk

www.unesco.org.uk

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