

John & Lena Allen

serving in

Papua New Guinea

Volume XCIII

January 2024

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AHEAD

“IRON SHARPENETH IRON” CONFERENCE

Pastors and preachers came to Lae City from around the Highlands and Momase regions to attend the conference last November. I again had the privilege of being a part, teaching on how to study the Word in the day sessions, and preaching alongside Pastor Dala Momo in the evenings. Pastor Michael Saka and Tent City Baptist do a great job hosting the meeting. I look forward to being back with them in a few weeks for another Biblical Preaching conference and evening revival services.

BBIPOM STARTS 5th YEAR OF CLASSES

Thank the Lord for His continued touch on our Bible college. Over the Christmas break we had graduates and students preaching around the country. There are reports of souls saved, and Shalom Baptist Church's new church plant, where our graduates have been ministering on the island of Bouganville, continues to grow.

The first semester of classes for 2024 has already begun. Pray the Lord will continue to send us pastors, preachers, and teachers to train for His glory!

KAMEA NEW TESTAMENT

My regular weekly schedule allows for more translation work now than it has in the last few years. In the last few months, we have completed the front translation of Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, and 1 & 2 Timothy. Pastor Ben has completed the Kamea translation of Ephesians, and is working on the others. Pastor Ben's daughter, Selestine, has been living with Lena and me since 2022 while finishing her high school and attending Bible college. She is a fluent reader of the Kamea language, and she is a great help in checking her dad's work. (As a side note, we have not been working straight through the New Testament—so the only books left to be translated are 2 Peter, Jude, Hebrews, and Romans.)

There is still much translating and checking to be done before we can move to the final step of setting up the Kamea New Testament for printing. Pray with us as we are getting closer to the completion of this project. It's starting to get exciting!

PIDGIN STUDY BIBLE

Lena has been faithfully typing up the notes for the study bible project for years now, as well as checking all the cross-references. That is painstaking work! I'm thankful that she has the heart and mind to do it.

At the beginning of 2023, every Saturday evening we had Selestine and four young men sitting around our table, helping us read through the new Pidgin Study Bible. At the beginning of 2024, we now have more people than we have table! It is a great opportunity to mentor these young people (late teens to mid-20s) as we carefully read through the text and study what it means. After one of Lena's delicious meals, we work together for two hours each session, reviewing the translation to make certain we have the clearest, most faithful word choices. These guys have great questions, and they are learning for themselves that the Bible has much to say about life's issues. Pray with us that they will continue to grow in grace,

and as others come to visit our home with them, pray that they will come to know the Lord.

Pressing on by His Grace and Goodness,
John & Lena Allen
Psalm 71:18

PS—Thank you for the Christmas gifts many of you sent to us. Those gifts enabled Lena to get much-needed cataract surgery in December!

Updates & more photos: johnallen.ttmk.org

