



Vanuatu



John 3:16

January 2020

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The start of a new year and a new decade is always an exciting time and we are looking forward to what the Lord has in store for us as a family and for His work in Vanuatu. We are making plans to open the Christian school at Imanaka on Tanna and also we would love to be able to make a trip to the States for deputation, however, as always this is in the Lord's hands, as we are caring for Danny's elderly parents. Please pray with us about these plans, that the Lord will bring them to fruition.

We were pleased about the attendance at the new discipleship classes we held in December. The materials were printed in Bislama (pidgin English) - the national language of Vanuatu. After so many years, Danny is fluent in Bislama and can explain God's truths as well as the language allows. Danny also understands some of the local West Tanna language which is the villagers' first language and is mainly spoken only (not read). Vanuatu has 103 local languages in total over the 83 islands.



There are a number of young men and women who have attended the classes and we ask for your earnest prayers that the Lord will touch their hearts and give them the desire to continue to grow in their knowledge and understanding of Him. Traditionally, from the age of 12, the young men go to the nakamal (meeting place) to help prepare the kava that is consumed each afternoon by many of the Tannese men. The boys chew the kava root before it is mixed with water and strained. It is a constant struggle to get the men to turn away from the kava drinking practice but with God's strength we know they can do it! Danny has also been training these young men in building skills and they have been learning over time and helping him working on the new storage shed and amenities block.



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With the help of the ladies, Janice was able to finish cutting out & organising the flannelgraph set for Sunday School lessons and show the ladies how to use the set. One of the young women from the village, Marta was able to translate a number of stories about the amazing birth of Jesus and the visit from the Shepherds so that we could share these with pictures for the children leading up to Christmas. She also translated some creation stories for use in January. Please pray that Marta will desire to continue with this translation work.

It was lovely to see the local village children coming most afternoons while we were there, so that Angelene would play frisbee, softball & their local games with them. Angelene is now 13 and it is a blessing to see her spiritual and physical growth. We are so pleased that she has given her life to Christ and has chosen to follow the Lord in obedience in baptism. Danny was blessed to be able to carry out Angelene's baptism in January in Australia in the presence of family and friends.



Prayer Points

Please pray for:

- The spiritual growth of the young men & women of Kapote MBC (Imanaka Village, Tanna)
- Discipleship classes
- Provision of curriculum and opening of the School
- Translation work of the flannelgraph Sunday School materials
- Building Fund: approx. \$16,200USD needed including:
\$1000 amenities block (tiles and paint costs), \$8,000 for building of kitchen and new storage rooms, \$600 Gutters, \$1200 Electrical fittings, Getting electricity to the building & \$600 Unelco post paid hook-up & deposit. \$1600 School ceiling and \$1200 installing the support beams in the school. Shipping \$2,000 (Shipping funds can be forwarded to World Wide Missionary & Literature Supplies – Joel Meredith)
- Pastor Willie & his family and the church at Rentabao, Port Vila
- Increase in our monthly support and future deputation plans

Thankyou so much for your ongoing prayers, love and support!

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