

## Half way there report!



Rev. Manus Lundu and I traveled to Manus Island, where two of my students, Aiga and Moses, were supposed to go to a place called Londru to start a church in Aiga's wife's hometown. However, when they got there they found that the only way there was by boat, and the fuel costs were the same as another plane ticket – money they did not have. However, a Nazarene pastor named Pol had gone over 4 weeks earlier after hearing that Aiga would be going over, and was to start a church in his home town – close to Aiga's. However, that did not work

out either, and he ended up starting a preaching point about two miles out of the main town of Lorengau in a kind of remote location where he was given some ground.

However, in the mean time he ran into a businessman in town that wanted to sell a piece of land in the town itself, and so now my students are involved in that town-church plant with Pol supporting. That means there are two other locations rather distant that have already



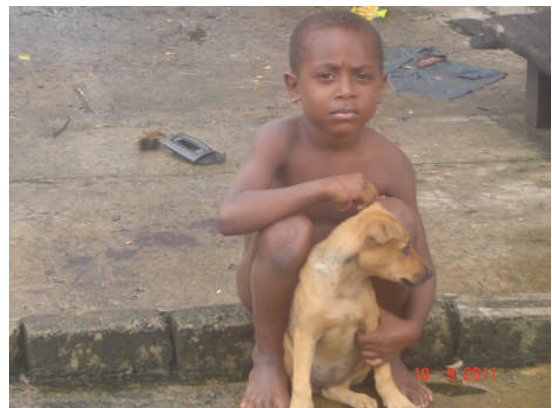
volunteered to have a church built, so we have ended up with four potential churches where we thought we were going to have one or two! That's not bad! Now just pray that the PNG church can come up with enough money to buy the land here. The lady who controls the land said she wanted to give us half price since we were a good church organization (she was one of the only people we ran into that had even heard of the Nazarene Church before, as she had been a

teacher in the Highlands for a while when she was younger), so blessing upon blessing was seen on this island.

During the evangelism services 40 people have made commitments, and these people are now attending discipleship courses three times a week.



This is great news



considering that we are only half way through the internship period! Please continue to pray hard for the Spirit to work wonders on Manus Island!



Manus Lundu (yes, he was named after the island mentioned above when an officer from the island visited his parents in the remote Southern Highlands while his mother was getting ready to deliver!) and I then went to Hula, a place 2 ½ hours Southwest of Port Moresby. “Lavilavi na mana” means “good afternoon” – with “rapa na mana” is “good morning,” and “pogi na mana” is “good evening.” Here three students, Chris and Grace Vuivagi and friend Anita Wasali went to plant a church in Chris’ home village. Chris

ended up getting three nasty boils on the way there and spent the first two weeks in painful bed rest. The other two made contacts and talked with village elders. Just two months earlier Mormons had come asking for ground and the Christian leaders (United Methodist) quizzed them for a couple of hours and then told them “no.” Our students arrived and wanted to plant a Nazarene Church on Chris’ small plot of reserved land, and again the leaders came and started asking all kinds of questions. They got around to “what do you



believe” and Grace Vuivagi (an excellent history student) asked if they had ever heard of John Wesley before (for those of you who are not good at history, he is the founder of Methodism, and he is also considered one of the forefathers of the Nazarene Church too, since we have very strong Methodist roots). They all said “Yes, of course they had heard of John Wesley!” Grace then said “Well, he is one of our forefathers!” They realized that Nazarenes have a lot in common with them, and at that point they said that Chris’ land

was really too small for church planting. They said that if he was willing to give his land up they would grant him a piece of land three or four times larger for the church property! Wow! I think someone is praying for these church plants!

Well, we showed the Jesus Film and 8 people made commitments to Christ, and then our three students were invited to share the Jesus Film at a school nearby. Here 157 students and teachers made commitments to follow Jesus! I asked them what their discipleship plan was now, and they are struggling a little. I wonder



what the apostle Peter did when 3,000 came to Christ in one day? Follow up must have been very challenging! ☺ Well, praise the Lord for the challenge, and thanks for your prayers!!

Balimo / Saweta is a place that is very remote. You need a boat to get from the airport to the villages. The boat that met our students took them to a place up river, and my students called the next day and said how they had an awesome youth rally and many had made commitments to Christ. They were getting ready for follow up and church planting activities. We have heard nothing from them since then, as they have moved to a place with no phone contact. The next day, however, the person that had given ground for the new church in Saweta called and asked where my students are. I said they had called me and were already underway with church planting. After talking and making several other phone calls it looks like my students went twice as far up river as they were supposed to go because the boat operator wanted a Nazarene Church in his home town as well! Is that kidnapping? Well, now we have a church somewhere up river out of phone contact, and ground for the original church still waiting in Saweta. We are sending another student to this area on Wednesday, and he will found the Saweta church, and also go find my students, Gabriel and Vernon, and see what's happening with them! So, praise the Lord, instead of one church we now have two in Western Province – God works in mysterious ways – and so do my students!! ☺ Please be in special prayer now for these two churches though, as it will take some divine intervention to keep them all going strong until after graduation when we can send pastors back to the area for full time work. Thanks for your prayers!

Vanimo / Indonesia border: These guys called and said they were going out of cell phone reach, and that was the last I have heard from them. Pray for John Kau and Basil Murang and the work they are doing three day's walk into the bush from Vanimo! We are half way through, and I am looking forward to hearing what kinds of things the Lord is doing in these remote locations!

Pictures:

- 1 = Manus Lundu and I getting ready for the flight
- 2 = Picture of Manus Island coast
- 3 = Church plant outside of town
- 4 = Immigrant child with dog. Indonesian immigrant fled to Manus Island to escape the government of Indonesia. They live in rather poor conditions close to the new church. (You have to walk through their community to get to the toilet over the ocean! ☺)
- 5 = Discipleship night at Church Plant #1
- 6 = Dave and Joshua Vuivagi in front of houses built upon the sand!
- 7 = New ground given for Hula church plant.
- 8 = net fishing – hopefully what Jesus will do with men and women of Hula!
- 9 = Anita and Grace and Joshua getting ready for devotions at a clinic in Hula
- 10 = some new Christians and some pre-Christians with Manus Lundu (red shirt with cap) and Aiga Vai (standing)
- 11 = that ocean-view toilet mentioned in #4! ☺

