



"Don't steal and eat people."

What can wash away my sin...

It has been a lot of fun lately working through the book of Romans with the believers. Recently, as I taught through chapter 3 verses 21-25 I wrote a list of sins that we do on a piece of paper and hung it around my neck. I then asked the people how I could get rid of that sin that was stuck on me. I asked if I could wash it off by putting water on it. It is commonly taught in our area and in many parts of PNG that baptism is one of the ways we can be made right with God, so I asked if pouring water on the sins would take them away. When that didn't work, I pulled out a 5 kina bill and put it into a makeshift offering plate. I asked if that 5 kina could take my sins away. The people said that wouldn't do it either, so next I pulled out a pig carving and sat that near the offering plate and said, "5 kina is a small offering, maybe if I give God a pig he'll take my sin away." As I was putting the pig down many in the room were saying, "That's what we do!" When the pig was insufficient, I put on a shirt that says "JESUS" on it. We then talked about how only the blood of Jesus shed on the cross is sufficient to take away our sins and make us right in God's eyes and how God no longer sees our sin, but sees his Son.



Team Vehicle...

Many have been asking for an update on our team vehicle situation. Just in the last couple weeks the Lord has opened the door for us. A fellow missionary who will be leaving for home assignment in a few months has agreed to sell us his vehicle. We are praying for a quick sale of our current vehicle and a good sale price. We are also trusting the Lord to provide the difference. Vehicles are very expensive here in PNG and it is vital to our ministry in the North Wahgi. **We have a separate account set up for this project. If you would like to help towards the purchase of this vehicle, please make checks payable to New Tribes Mission and write on the memo line or a separate note, “PNG Field Fund—North Wahgi Team Vehicle”.** If you have any other questions, please feel free to ask.



“Don’t steal and eat people”...*a peek into translation*

For years we’ve all heard stories of the past traditions of the PNG people and cannibalism. The idea of us (and other missionaries) coming to a country where cannibalism once existed has been a concern for many people. We have tried to put the minds of people to ease when the question has arisen as this is a thing of the past. However, as I’ve been working through the book of Mark, I was once again reminded of how our people refer to the act of committing adultery. A fairly literal Back-to-English translation of the command to not commit adultery would be, “You men and women, do not steal and eat (other) men and women.” As we have shared before, it is widely taught in our area that the initial sin of Adam and Eve was the consummation of their marriage. It is interesting to note that the same term for “stealing and eating” the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, or anything else for that matter, is the same term used

for “stealing and eating” that is used in reference to adultery.

This little light of mine...

Two Sundays ago Steven came to me and asked me if I could make the lesson shorter than normal as there were a bunch of new people who have come but they've not heard any of the previous teaching and are not clear on how we are made right in God's eyes. He and Wirol wanted time to review some of the very first lessons with them in order to explain about the origin of sin and how God has prepared a way for us to be made right with him. Steven and Wirol had been talking to these individuals the night before and told them that they should come in the morning. We were greatly blessed to sit back and allow them to do this review. It has been very encouraging to see the Lord enabling these two men to be more vocal about their faith and to be challenging others in what they believe. **Pray that the God will help to sustain their light and that it will truly pierce the darkness.**

We are thankful for each of you. For your love and encouragement. We could not be here without you.

Levi, Robyn, Michael, Daniel, and Matthew Lenz