

February
2024

Matthew and Sarah Thompson



Beach Fun

Taking God's word to those who haven't heard



Sporting our Special Papuan Hats from the Youth

Thank you for your prayers and thank you to all our financial partners.



Sharing at the Youth Event

Hello friends,

Last month's newsletter shared about the health of languages in Papua. I said I would share more about this and the gospel needs in Papua in the next few newsletters. I will try to get to that next month. There is much news from this month that I want to share and praise God for.

Thank you for praying for us as we shared our testimonies in Indonesian for the first time on February 4th at a youth event. We are grateful for our language teachers helping us prepare. God blessed us, and it went well.

As we continue to share the gospel in Papua and these young people go back to their day-to-day lives, we ask for your prayers for the following: 1. That God's work would be evident in the lives of these young people. 2. That they would come to know God and/or know Him more. 3. That through them and us the gospel would spread and transform lives in Papua.

We spent the last part of February in Bali, another island in Indonesia. In Bali, we went to the U.S. Consulate for Azariah's paperwork from the U.S., and Matthew had a much-needed surgery on his left knee. Praise the Lord! Matthew is healing well and does not have much pain now. We wanted to give him as much time as possible to recover before we moved to the village and had much more manual labor. We also got to have some fun while we were in Bali.

We continued our normal language classes in February and also had language classes of a different kind while we were in Bali. We got to have lots of good conversations in Indonesian. Many of these included the gospel. We are thankful that God prepared us to share the gospel by giving our testimonies at the beginning of the month.

Bali is a predominantly Hindu island, so we were mostly sharing the gospel with Hindu people who had very little understanding of the gospel. These conversations were challenging but also filled with opportunities to share the love of Christ. While the people seemed far from turning to Christ, we believe seeds were planted and hearts were touched by the gospel message.

Every time we turned around, God seemed to give us another opportunity to talk with someone. One encouraging moment was with one young man who came to our Airbnb to draw Matthew's blood for the hospital. He thanked us for helping him to know how he could have access to God. He seems very close to salvation. He has Christian friends that he looks up to. Please pray for his salvation and all the other people we talked to. We are so thankful for all of these opportunities to share the gospel.

We thought our trip to Bali was a paperwork and health trip with some fun, but it turns out it was also a mission trip. Praise the Lord!

In March, we plan to continue language classes and make an interior trip to see other missionaries' houses in the jungle so that we can begin to think about what our village home may look like one day. This will also give us time to learn from them and be mutually encouraged.

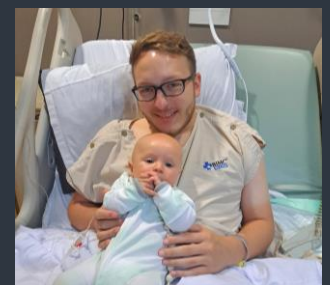
Please pray for this trip. We want to conclude this newsletter with a link to our latest update video, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qplOz-7JlCo&authuser=0>. We hope all of our partners get to see and enjoy this video. Please feel free to share as you wish.

Love in Christ,
Matthew, Sarah, & Azariah

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After Surgery



Indonesian Class

Prayer Requests & Needs

- The people that we will work with and those without God's word
- More people to work with them
- Our family
- Our language and culture learning

Sending Church:

Sublett Road
Baptist Church
PO Box 172076
Arlington, TX 76003

Please make checks payable to
Sublett Road Baptist Church
CC: Matthew Thompson