

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS  
AND THANK YOU TO ALL OUR  
FINANCIAL PARTNERS.

DECEMBER 2024

## MATTHEW & SARAH THOMPSON

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

Hello friends,

In December, we took a vision trip, tied up loose ends from the year, prepared for the upcoming year, and enjoyed celebrating both Jesus' birthday and Sarah's. In the rest of this newsletter, we want to share about the group God has called us to serve on our vision trip, and prayer requests about our next steps.

We are excited and thankful to announce that God has led us to serve the Murkim people. Thank you for your prayers. You may remember that in September, we shared how the Murkim language is spoken across all age groups, how the Murkim people praised God for the survey team, and how they treated the team with immense hospitality. They also shared that they have been praying for many years for God's Word to be available in their own language so they can fully understand it.

The Murkim people, numbering around 300 to 500, live in the foothills of the eastern highlands of Papua, Indonesia. They currently do not have God's Word in their language. There is no road or river access directly to the Murkim area; the only means of entry is by hiking small footpaths or using a small plane to land on a grass strip. From our surveys, we learned how God has been preparing the way for the gospel in their language through other missionaries and evangelists who have helped open airstrips and preached the gospel in Indonesian.

From December 9–13, our family visited the four villages of the Murkim people that have airstrips. During this trip, we visited and spent the night in Mot, Tual, Kwaki, and Milki. Although the trip had its hardships, God was with us and helped us. In each village, we shared our vision, heard the people's input, and prayed with them. The people received us warmly, with thanksgiving and celebration, and we gathered valuable information. Over and over, the Murkim people have expressed their need for God's Word in the Murkim language; their hunger and eagerness to receive God's Word in their own language is evident.

Please pray for us as we seek God's will regarding which village we should settle in to begin language and culture learning, as well as to develop relationships with the Murkim people. Here's an updated video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Berh-H3of8A> announcing that we are serving the Murkim people. If you are reading this as a representative of your church, please share this video with the church.

Love in Christ,  
Matthew, Sarah, & Azariah

### Prayer Requests & Needs

- The hearts of the Murkim People
- Guidance for which village to base out of
- Our family during this time of transition
- Language & culture learning



Sharing our vision



Lots of plane travel



A village home

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