

BIMI BAPTIST INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS, INC.

Alan Brooks, Assistant Southeast Asia Director

April 2, 2018

Dear Supporters and Praying Friends,

On February 26 at 4:00 a.m., BIMI Missionary Mickey Schrimshire and I were sleeping on the third floor of a large building in a very remote area of Papua New Guinea (PNG), called Wabag in the province of Enga. As we were shaken out of our beds, we realized that we were experiencing a major earthquake. This was later reported to be a 7.5 magnitude on the Richter scale with several more days of aftershocks. Communication is very limited in this area already, but with the earthquake it only intensified the problem. Thousands of homes and buildings were either damaged or destroyed. Hundreds of lives were lost, mostly by landslides and collapsed buildings.

A week after the earthquake, International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement officials estimated that at least 7,000 people had their homes destroyed or damaged, and 150,000 people were in urgent need of emergency supplies with food and clean water among the biggest concerns. Lack of road access and landslides hampered all deliveries in the area, including the Bibles. By March 7 the number of displaced people had risen to 17,000. Entire families were lost in just moments. One heroic father threw his daughter out the window of their home as all collapsed on top of the family. The daughter was the only survivor out of a family of seven!



As I heard of this event, my heart went out to the family and to the father who sought to physically save his child with great sacrificial dedication. The physical earth shook violently, destroying those things that are made, but truly, there are some things that cannot be shaken. Hebrews 12:27 says, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Earthquakes can destroy physical items and even human lives but they cannot destroy the blessed Word of God. God promises His Word will stand for eternity and *it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it* (Isaiah 55:11). God's Word will not be shaken!

With the beginning of a new school year, Pastor Rodney Kelley, BIMI Missionary Mickey Schrimshire, BIMI Missionary Carl Vonnoh, BIMI Missionary Steven Maldoff, and I traveled to PNG to continue distributing Bibles to the secondary schools. I thank God for each of these men and for their willingness to travel the distance and contribute their time away from other responsibilities to work on this project. Their encouragement and hard work in distributing the Bibles will never be forgotten. Over 220,000 Bibles have personally been given and 291 of the total 351 Phase 1 secondary schools have been completed. The provinces of Hela and the Southern Highlands have had to close down the schools as they seek to recover from the earthquake. By the first of June, five more containers carrying 275,000 additional Bibles will arrive in PNG to launch Phase 2, which will be just enough to do 1/3 of all the primary schools (grades 4 – 8). At present, these Bibles are in transit on a ship traveling from Belarus to PNG.

Since arriving home, I have had the privilege of traveling to three churches to give personal updates on the investments that God's people have made in this project. If you are interested in having me come to your church to give an update, please feel free to call or text me at (423) 504-3132. I also may be contacted by email at alanb@bimi.org. Because there will be times when the schools are out in PNG, I will be back in the States and available for meetings during the fall of the year.

I was approached by a pastor concerning our personal support and how we are able to live financially while doing a project such as this. He thought I was paid by BIMI to do projects. We are not paid a salary by BIMI but are faith missionaries and dependent on the support of churches and individuals who

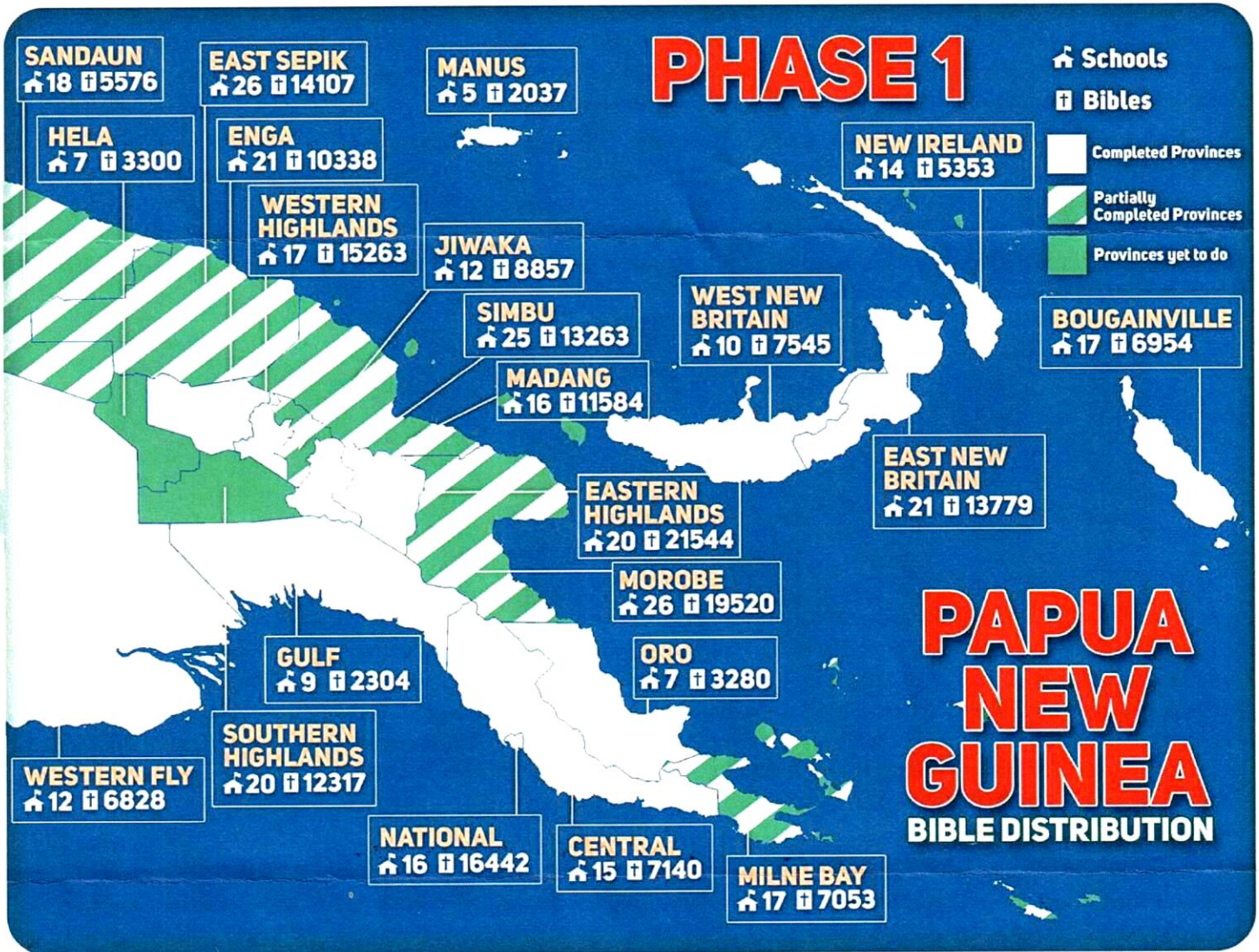
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partner with us monthly to enable us to do the work of God. Thank you to all who faithfully pray and support us financially. We could not do the ministry that God has given us without you. Would you please pray that God would help us to be able to increase our personal support as faith missionaries? If you would like to contribute to the PNG Bible Distribution Fund, the account is #1319. If you would like to partner with us by personally supporting us, our account is #774.

Brethren, please pray for us.



Alan Brooks



Please pray for:

1. Shipping, that the Bibles will arrive safely to the port
2. Logistics, that God will help us in all the planning for travel and distribution
3. Funds, that God would continue to supply funds for Phase 2
4. Safety, that God will protect us as we travel
5. Strength (physically and spiritually), that God would give us His divine help as this is an impossible task without God