

BFO Newsletter No. 3
March –August, 2010

“A person can never redeem himself; he cannot pay God the price for his life, because the payment of a human life is too great” Psalms 49:7-8 Good News Bible

Dear Friends,

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow!”

It is now a year and a half since BFO started. There have only been three newsletters sent out in that time! I know you are eager to know what has been happening in the last six months. There have been lots of significant things happening, with blessings and challenges included!

Though there is sincere desperation of food and clothing, education, proper housing and parenting. In BFO one thing that stands out like a light on a hill top, is the “Message of Salvation”.

In March God provided the resources from David Scheier of New York, Sharon Davolt and Charles Knimeyer of Kansas, USA for school fees. All school fees for 2010 have been paid for in full for 61 children. The one exception is for the new children who have joined us in May. We were also able to purchase shoes and school materials for the children.

Insufficiency of feeding is one of our major problems and concerns. Many are advised to take in a lot of water, which is free at the feeding centre where we provide water. We use the same water tank that my family uses. We have only one home built concrete tank, which my husband constructed. That makes it easy for the orphans and my family! When we don't have rain or water flowing from the town supply, we drive out a distance out of town to fetch water in 2-4 litre containers. Life is a bit challenging here at BFO.



On the other hand, more unfortunate children are coming into BFO. In April we had twin sisters from the Northern coastal area of our country, Popondetta. They were abused and neglected after their late father died on job transfer. Their mother deserted them and remarried another man. The girls were abused so badly and were chased out of their mother's new home and new marriage. Then Diane and Ruth begged for a ship fare from people in the public streets of Popondetta and were able to travel to Lae. From Lae, they got on a Public Transport to the Highlands and re-united with their Grandmother, who is very old. Their uncles have been killed in the on-going tribal fights in the Nebilyer Valley of Western Highlands. When the girls heard about BFO from a village pastor whom we support, the girls decided to come and join BFO. Because they were so eager and interested in education, BFO was able to provide for their school fees and other needs. They have struggled a bit with the culture and language difference between the coastal and highlands cultures. But both Diane and Ruth are doing well with their Grandmother in the village

In the month of May, we received lots of goodies! There were two boxes of used school boys' and girls' uniforms sent from Mentone Grammar School, Victoria Australia through Missionary Home in Port Moresby. Praise God that MAF was able to fly the boxes to Mt. Hagen and have them delivered to our doorstep. As seen in the pictures on page 3, all the children are happy wearing the supplies. They wear the clothes to church and to school

In most parts of the highlands, our society does not treat woman and girls equally with boys and men. Girls are restricted from formal education and are allowed only to get married and raise livestock and gardening. To change this mentality, BFO wants to give fair education to both boys and girls! It is a long curved road we are now trying to detour and with God we shall accomplish our vision and goal; "To give a Child a Future", one at a time.

These two boys are from a remote place in the middle of Ramu, in the coastal area. They heard about BFO and traveled up the Highlands Highway. They are from separate parents, but of one biological Grandfather. Their Grandfather who is in his late 60s decided to bring them to BFO. Now we pay school fees, provide clothing, school materials and meals for them. They also attend Sunday school with the rest of the children. Unfortunately, they don't know who their biological fathers are. The one in red is Carmon (11yrs) and in blue is Bradley (12yrs). Brad is Grade 3 while Carmon is in Kindergarten.



- Carmon & Bradley



Our goal is to train both boys and girls to become good citizens and leaders of tomorrow. BFO's purpose is to "Give a Hope and a Future to one child at the time, regardless gender."



We also received school supplies and Clothes from Okaden Baptist Church in Australia through a MAF container shipment. Our MAF Finance Manager, Geoff and wife Jennifer, who is also a BFO board member. Came and assisted with the distribution of clothes. They brought some cooked soup and various food, and fed the orphans. Jennifer further assisted in wiping and washing the children from a bucket of water. There are no proper facilities to store water and the water problem in this area is a long time struggle of the township of Mt Hagen.



In addition to these supporters, a New Zealand pilot, Allan Pumphrey of Air Niugini and family brought in lots of school materials and clothes for both boys and girls! Most of the clothes were given to the children but few are kept back for Church and school. These are withheld due to thieves, who steal the children's clothes and resell them to earn a "toea" to buy something to eat for the day! And the other reason is of mud, and poor housing, quickly allowing the clothes get very dirty. It takes time to wash them, as we don't have proper washing facilities. My family and I, together with the orphans drink from the same water tank. So the children are asked to go to a nearby creek to have a bath and wash their clothes.

From June to August we had major problems with housing and schooling! With the financial support from BFO board, we completed a bush material house valued at K2,000 on a state waste land. This house was built for deserted children, seven orphans with an abused grandmother with two deserted grandchildren. Just a day before they were to move in, a so-called landowner claiming ownership of the land came and burnt down the whole house. One widow and son who tried to stop the fire were badly beaten by the villager. It gave a shock to all of us! These small boys worked very hard to get the house finished. When the sad news reached their ears on their return from school, they all came to the scene and couldn't help the tears. We all wept! Each one tried to express their grief because in our culture finishing a house demonstrates a man's strength in his development into manhood, which is also his pride. All the boys had tears and the girls shared the grief too. Together we expressed our grief as well as our fears! At the same time the widow with her son came out from their hiding place both with a bleeding nose and broken lip. This sight made matters worse! However, instantly the Lord gave peace and without saying anything, I gave a K20 note to the mother and son. I asked them to go to the hospital and report the matter to the Police and Community Leaders.



I then saw the bigger boys running towards me with anger, and this was all too hard for me! At the same time, neighbors were gathered to hear about the incident. Thanks to God, He intervened and all became calm. I found it hard to explain to the children why the house we desperately needed was burnt down. In a soft and gentle tone with tears, I told them that our God is Big, Great and Mighty! He is sovereign and Mysterious! And today God is still on His Throne and seeing what is happening to us. I reminded them of the Bible Stories of Jesus that we need to forgive those who had sinned against us. Just as He did when cruel men beat and nailed Him on the Cross for wrongs He didn't do. So praise God, the teachings really got down to their troubled young hearts and to date we are at peace with the whole situation. It's a big testimony to the community and the issue is now before the Community Leaders' Court and Police.



These boys' lives are being transformed after they hear of God's love, forgiveness and faithfulness. They have decided to form a boys' singing group! It is going along well. Every Sunday we go to church and they present their songs to the church. We have plans to arrange special singing uniforms for them to sing in different local churches and denominations. They want to share testimonies of what God is doing in their lives.

BFO was also blessed with some money for food from BellBridge Rotary Club, Albury Australia. We bought food with the money and it was all received in time. They have decided to support us quarterly. Thank you for your support.



One of our difficult issues is medication and medical emergencies. The children get sick regularly so we keep blank Health Record Books which were donated by one Australian and PNG Citizen, Bob Heagreaves. This is going on well, except for emergencies in the late hours. I am interrupted with their cries. Since there is no vehicle, I arrange for older boys to carry those who are sick and weak on their shoulders and rush them to Mt Hagen General Hospital. This is one the most difficult things we face at BFO.

The children are fed two times a day now! (previously fed two times a week) God's provision is seen every day, through Christians both in MAF and the Community. Some children and widows arrive before feeding time at the care centre and wait. They have rice with soup, fruit and juice. Sometimes sweet potato (kaukau), soup and water



Most of the children have scabies. We were able to get a first aid kit to dress them and send them to the hospital. Often they are neglected so we have someone take care of them getting to the hospital. However the lady is a widow and infected with HIV Aids. She looks healthy and offers her help to assist BFO with hospital visitation and other areas of health issues. I thank God for her. At the end of each visit she gives a progressive report.



Christina, Thomas & Manuku

This young mother in the picture above has been sexually abused at aged 14 and now 17. In between these years, she has two unwanted little boys. BFO takes extra care of them. Their names are Thomas and Manuku. The mother Christina looks sick despite trying numerous medications. I am thinking of sending her to a Catholic Health Centre, where HIV and other related diseases are properly diagnosed. Please pray that it will go well with the nurses and she can express herself openly.

We are so privileged that God has called you and I to this great task of taking care of the poor and the needy.

Praise Points:

- Another milestone that took place in BFO was the opening of a new bank account. The Ministry – BIBLE FAIH OUTREACH INC has its own address as: BFO, P O Box 174. Mt. Hagen. WHP 281 PNG. Its account number is: 6001795234 (Cheque Account) with Westpac Banking, Mt. Hagen Branch.
- We have some very talented and God-Fearing gentlemen and ladies on the board who have hearts for missions.
- Help is coming from overseas, former church and MAF missionaries.

We would like to share prayer points for special needs:

- We desperately need a property estimated at 10-15 acres and we are in negotiations.
- Pray that the amount will be appropriate for BFO to meet (the amount is not yet given)
- Pray for the provision of a vehicle for BFO. The vehicle is needed for emergencies, school and shopping.
- Shoes
- Funds and permanent income donors

Finally, we are reminded in God's Word that He has tagged a great value on a soul! So whatever, little or great, down to the least, is fulfilling the Great Mission which God has set before the foundation of this world. It is to reach down to the poor and needy, hearing the cries of widows and orphans.

BFO has a vision and goal to reach, raise and build one unfortunate, unprivileged and orphaned child, one at the time to give a Hope and a Future!

Thank you every one for being partners in this great mission!

May God bless you, accordingly!

Aunty Rosa and the Team of BFO.