



MATT & BECKY ALLEN FAMILY

CHURCH PLANTERS TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PLANTING CHURCHES | TRAINING LEADERS | LOGISTICAL SUPPORT THROUGH AVIATION

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For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries. —1 Cor. 16:9

How do I begin to express the depth of our gratitude toward you who partner with us, year after year? And then, the outpouring of love that you showed us over this past 5 weeks has been nothing short of amazing.

For those that do not know, we had 21 armed men invade our campus on the 6th of November, breaking into 4 houses at the same time. The Lord was gracious in that, while a few of our men were tied up by the thieves, nobody was seriously injured. Upon alerting you, our friends, you graciously gave immediately to help us put up added security measures. We currently have multiple guards patrolling at night, and we are in process of building a very strong fence with electric wires along the top, in order to protect the young ladies and young families that are a part of our team. We are also adding security cameras and an alert system, which will work together with a local security company. This is a fine line, which I want to be so careful to walk: carefully protecting those we love and work with, while not simultaneously putting up a Fort Knox-style barrier in front of those who genuinely want spiritual help. I appreciate your prayer in this matter.

As a result of the break-in, we have been given an open door to carry the gospel to the village where these thieves come from. The people that live there are from the Goilala Tribe, and they are deeply resented in our city. They are typically the poorest of our city and always associated with crime. Good people have likened their mentality to “having no respect for human life, and they will kill just to grab something that will feed themselves for a day.”

These people make their living by scavenging off the city dump that is next to their shacks.

I have no doubt that before November 6th, if I had just randomly stopped at their village, I would have gotten robbed within minutes. But, because of the problems we faced that night, the village has invited us to come. I told them that we are not coming to get them to “rat out” their neighbours, or to ask for anything. But we are coming to give them our greatest treasure: the gospel. It has been five weeks of continuing to return to the same shade tree in their village, and every week, they are waiting there on Sunday afternoon. Pray with me—God is at work. There are several men in that village that, given the chance, would attack us in an instant; but there are hundreds of people in that village that need the gospel. We will not let this opportunity go to waste. “A great and effectual door is opened to us, but there are many adversaries.” Pray, please.



Receiving one of the stolen laptops back

Sincerely,
Matt and Becky Allen