



PO Box 1765, Grass Valley, CA 95945
530-272-8170

www.piministries.info piministries@ncws.com

Eric and Penny email: epsxim@ncws.com

March/April 2014

Dear Friends,

Sikamo (Sycamore, think Zacchaeus) Bible School in the Iahita area functioned for a number of years before improprieties by its principal in 2000 AD forced a shutdown. The Lord gave Nasy, the new principal, a vision for bringing the school back to life and in 2010 Sikamo re-opened its doors.

The school's annual budget gives new meaning to shoestring. The yearly tuition fee is K100 (\$40) but most of the 15 students don't have the funds to pay. Nasy tells them, "If you don't have the money, don't worry. Just come."

It grieves Nasy deeply that pastors are not passing the faith on to their children. The new generation is being educated, but they have not embraced Christ and followed his ways. Nasy prays, sometimes weeps, for sons of pastors who are chewing betelnut and abusing alcohol.

Sikamo, a two year Bible school, graduated 17 students last year with no outside funds and with three of four teachers alternating between Melanesian and English classes. Nasy teaches in English to ten of the students and then the next hour teaches the same material in Melanesian to the other students. The teachers receive no salaries, but work in their gardens. Sometimes surrounding villagers bring donations of food.

Last year Nasy invited a number of pastors in the area to take courses, pastors who had no previous Bible training. Many responded. He also makes an effort to visit graduates in their churches to encourage and guide them.

Approximately a year ago Eric received a phone call from our friend Bill Joe, the inmate who grew significantly during his 7 year term in Boram prison in Wewak. Bill Joe, released last year and now a student at Sikamo, introduced Nasy over the phone and Eric and Nasy arranged to meet later in Wewak. The friendship grew from there and now PIM is providing copies of *10 Hot Topics* and *11 More Hot Topics* in both Melanesian and English as well as copies of *Leadership for Melanesia*. A carton of *With All My Heart* was also given as some of the students will be teaching RI (Religious Instruction) classes in public primary schools in the area. Additionally, Eric is giving Nasy guidance on curriculum for the school. (Below: Nasy and Eric in PIM house in Wewak)

Please lift up for Nasy and the Sikamo Bible School, that good instruction would take place and lives would be impacted.

"...pray for us, that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored..." 2 Thess 3:1

Eric and Penny Schering

