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Dear Friends

The week of March 2-8 was very exciting, perhaps the greatest week of ministry we've had in the 20 years we've been in PNG. On Wednesday March 4 I went to Bishop Leo, the Catholic High School here in Wewak, to deliver 1000 copies of *Ten Hot Topics* which had been requested. The Principal, Thadeus Wekre wasn't available - he was teaching a class - so I chatted with one of the teachers in the office area for 30 minutes or so. The teacher was keenly interested in *Ten Hot Topics*, so I gave him a copy. Then after about an hour the principal finally finished teaching his class and confirmed that yes he wanted the books (he stated he had read the book) and will use them either in Personal Development class or Guidance class, both of which meet 5 days a week, as opposed to the Religious Education class that meets only once a week. It's the first time we made inroads at this 1000 student Catholic high school in Wewak.

Then on Thursday Penny and I flew on a New Tribes Mission Aviation airplane from Wewak to Mt Hagen. Mt Hagen with its elevation of 5000 feet feels so good compared to hot, sticky Wewak! We stayed at Mt Hagen Missionary Home, and they let us use an old Suzuki vehicle if we would just put some gasoline into the thing, which we did. No shocks on the thing which made it rough with all the potholes on the roads, but it got us from Point A to B.

Friday Penny and I and Alpha Danaus visited Mt Hagen Secondary High School, and had a very good visit with Principal Joe Agoloma. He wanted 2000 copies of *Ten Hot Topics*, so we arranged it. The books will be delivered to the high school this Thursday by Mt Hagen Christian bookstore. They have somewhere between 2200 and 2300 students in the high school, and Mr Agoloma said he had some available funds to cover buying copies for the other 200-300 students.

Then we went to Hagen Park high school, for "day students" only (Mt. Hagen Secondary has dormitories for about half its students). Had a good visit with the principal, informed him about the books. Also conveyed to him that we didn't have funds to provide books for his students (2600 students in his high school). He was impressed with the book and said they had some funds to buy some copies.

Then a third high school in Hagen, Kwewomp, has about 1600 students. We will likely provide them with 500-600 copies of *Heroes at the End of the Earth*.

Then also on Friday (and again on Saturday morning) we met with Pepa Bala, the Papua New Guinean in charge of Baptist Union Christian schools in Baiyer River, about two hours north of Hagen. He supervises 45 elementary schools, 15 primary schools and 3 high schools, most all of them in Baiyer River area. Already last year we had provided him with 450 copies of *Ten Hot Topics*, and gave him 200 more. Also last year we gave him 160 copies of *With All My Heart*, which is for 6th-9th graders. He requested 1000 more! They have about 2000 6th-8th graders in their primary schools. Mom and I flew back to Wewak on Saturday afternoon about 1pm.

So yes, it was a spiritual high for us, Penny and I are impressed again and again with the level of interest in these books. Thank you for your prayers!

Eric Schering