

Hays Horizons

The newsletter of Darrell & Kerttu Hays, Bible Translators in Papua New Guinea

Odoodee Partial New Testament Dedication Celebration—November 16-17, 2017



Work colleagues and I (Darrell) were warmly welcomed at the airstrips. Celebrations were held in 2 Odoodee villages.



Copies of "God's Good Talk" were carried from the airstrip to the grandstand.



Welcome banner with Matthew 4:16 written in the Odoodee language.



Several people gave speeches. I encouraged the local people to let God's Word be like seeds and produce fruit in their everyday lives.



Odoodee translator, Martin, told about the history of the translation program and expressed his desire for the entire New Testament to be published in his language.



People happily bought their own copies.



Jess, one of the Southwest regional directors in PNG, interacted with the local people, showing them what was inside these books.



People were eager to see what was in this book. Our desire is that they may connect with God through it.

Scripture Engagement Team—an update

In our last newsletter I mentioned that a couple in PNG had expressed interest in working among the Odoodee people, helping them to use and engage with the newly published Scriptures. The couple came along to the New Testament dedication, and as a result of their visit and interaction with the people, they have decided to work among the Odoodee people for about two years. They and their three young children plan on spending about two weeks in February in Kalamo village (staying in our village house) and begin building relationships with the local people. They will go on furlough in March, hoping to return to PNG and to the Odoodee people later in the year. Pray that God would direct their paths and give them wisdom as how to best help the Odoodee people engage with His Word.

Darrell’s trip to PNG in November 2017—the rest of the story

While I was in PNG, besides attending the New Testament dedication, I stayed busy with several other major things:

- 1.) Selling our house in Ukarumpa (Praise God that it sold!).
- 2.) Emptying out our house of all of our personal belongings (included selling, throwing or giving away, and putting the rest into storage).
- 3.) Meeting with my supervisors to discuss the future of the Odoodee translation project. I will continue working on the translation by myself in an effort to see that the remaining 25% of the New Testament can be published at some point in the future.

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We moved in December—Please note our new address!



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Update on Kerttu

The CT scan taken in mid-December revealed that the tumor under Kerttu’s breastbone has grown a bit and now there are some growths in the lining around her left lung. The new growths caused fluid to build up inside the lining. Kerttu has been in the hospital twice since Christmas to have the fluid drained. A permanent drain has been inserted so fluid can be drained at home. She will switch back to having intravenous chemo treatments at least for the next 4 months. Pray that this regimen would be effective and that Kerttu will be able to tolerate the side effects.

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and ongoing financial support,
Darrell & Kerttu

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