

the DELONGS

"...That All...The Earth May Know"

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July-August 2016

Dear Friends,

"But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life" John 4:14.

Approximately 70% of the world is covered by water. However, less than one percent of this water is considered safe for humans to drink. Because all life depends on the availability of clean, safe water, water conservation and sanitation are vitally important in many parts of the world. Beyond the need for suitable drinking water, though, there is another water so desperately needed by all. This essential water is the "living water" of Jesus Christ—a soul-quenching water that only He can provide.

Jesus purposely chose to go out of His way to a town in Samaria to tell a lost woman about His life-giving water. Samaria was a place where no respectable rabbi would set foot, but Jesus knew there was a desperate need in that Samaritan town—a need that only He could meet. Jesus told this woman about His "living water" *"...whosoever drinketh of the water,"* He said, *"shall never thirst."* It *"...shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life"* (John 4:14).

The living water Jesus spoke of is Jesus Himself. Those who receive Him have eternal life. But the living water Jesus provides also serves another function. Jesus said of those who receive it: *"He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water"* (John 7:38). The living water that refreshes us is to refresh others also.

The opportunity to share Christ's living water through the Papua New Guinea Bible Project is truly an amazing honor. As mentioned in our last prayer letter, this project is just now in its beginning stages, having gone through the approval process both with the government officials in Papua New Guinea and the Board of Baptist International Missions, Inc. It has truly been a joy that even in these initial first months of the project, as I have presented the Bible Project to churches, the response has been overwhelming with churches desiring to willingly join in to be a part of getting Bibles into the hands of the Papua New Guinea school children and ultimately into the homes and communities. I have enclosed a short DVD for you and your church that will hopefully help you "catch" the vision of the Papua New Guinea Bible Project and will prayerfully tug on your hearts to participate and join in on the joy of sharing Christ's living water in the country of Papua New Guinea. If you want me to come to your church to present the project, feel free to call me at any time. (See the phone number at the top of the letter.)

July and August: we were blessed to have meetings in Ohio and West Virginia where the PNG Bible Project was presented to four churches. Looking ahead to September, we will be in mission meetings in Texas, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Ohio. Praise the Lord for the abundant opportunities He has provided to serve Him.

Your faithfulness in both prayer and support is much appreciated. **"Thank you."** We understand and know that we would not be able to serve in world-wide missions without your dedicated backing. Please continue to pray for the Papua New Guinea Bible Project. Pray also for safety in traveling and for God's blessing in all that is accomplished for Him. We especially covet your prayers for wisdom.

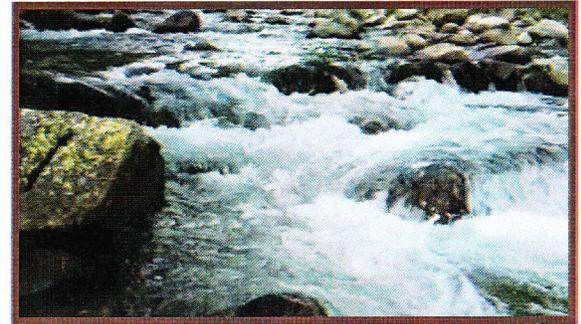
Fresh, clean water distribution is uneven in the world; so, too, is the distribution of our Lord's living water. Many people around the world do not know followers of Jesus who really care about them. It is our privilege to share Him. Christ, is, after all, the living water for whom people are thirsting.

Jesus is a never-ending supply of living water for a parched world.

Yours in Christ,

Dan, Sandy & Selina
The DeLongs

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Continuing Ministry in Papua New Guinea
Candidate & Deputation Director