

Gutpela Sindaun

(The Good Life)

Andrew, Crystal, Lucas, Ethan, Aaron, and Isaac

April 2020



Happy Easter from Papua New Guinea! He Is Risen!

Wow! How things have changed since our last update! We know all of you are experiencing great changes in your lives as well. We have heard the stories from America and are praying for you all as you adjust to the changes you are facing. Covid-19 is affecting us as well. Papua New Guinea (PNG) declared a State of Emergency after the first confirmed case of the virus in country. Air travel inside the country and travel between provinces was prohibited for two weeks. Our center has been following an isolation protocol for the last three weeks. We have shut down departments except for essential staff. We are able to be out and about around the center, but we keep our social distance of two meters (six feet for you Americans.) The kids aren't able to have their normal play dates with their friends. We are having church meetings over our network connection. The store is delivering our groceries to our door and the we have been getting market produce via new methods. Our school here has closed for the last quarter of the year. After Easter Crystal will be homeschooling the three youngest, while Lucas will be going to virtual school over our network. It sounds a lot like how many people around the world are living.



Lucas got to celebrate his birthday in quarantine

The last couple weeks have been a roller coaster of emotions. We have had to say goodbyes to some of our colleagues who left before all of the shutdowns in international travel while others left a couple of days ago on a flight arranged by the US State Department. We have decided to stay for the time being. We are doing well, and staying healthy. It has been different for us to be quarantined to our home most of the time. The boys are in the middle of their term break from school so we have been trying to keep busy with odd projects around the house. We installed a new water tank to provide extra drinking water for our family. We collect rain water from our roof to use for drinking and washing. We don't have a well, or city water here. The boys loved helping to dig the hole for the water tank! Puzzles, games and movies have been other activities to help pass the time. Our neighbor kids and the boys have been playing games across the street. They have imaginary battles while staying in their own yards and keeping the street between them. There are days that are overwhelming, and others where we know we are where God has called us.



The boys digging a hole for our new water tank

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We want to say thank you for your continued prayers and support through these changing times. Please join us in praying for:

Continued health and the health of PNG. Pray for wisdom for the leaders of our center and the nation.

Pray for safety in these uncertain times. We don't know if medevac flights to Australia are possible, and we don't want to have to find out!

Pray for us as we try to find our new normal. School will be starting this week at home and the boys will be spending more time together in the house doing school work. Pray for Crystal as she is helping with the schooling.

Pray for the goodbyes as some of our friends are leaving sooner than expected.

Pray that we can be a blessing to those around us and that our family will abide in Christ through these difficult times.

Enjoy some pictures of a few events before the virus!

(Right) Aaron (center) with his friends at the book parade

(Below left) Lucas playing trumpet in the Middle School band concert

(Lower Right) Ethan (Stinky Cheese Man) and his teacher Miss Wheeler at the book parade

