



# MATT & BECKY ALLEN FAMILY

## CHURCH PLANTERS TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PLANTING CHURCHES | TRAINING LEADERS | LOGISTICAL SUPPORT THROUGH AVIATION

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*Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. —Hebrews 13:8*

I certainly do not have to tell you that this has been a year marked with one certainty: that seemingly everything can change. We also have been affected by the Covid-19 issues; and we were blessed in that only eight cases have been confirmed in Papua New Guinea, and all of those cases have fully recovered. That certainly is of the Lord's mercies.



By government orders, we were unable to meet for church services for five weeks; however, we did pre-record the services and played them online through social media each Sunday morning. I was amazed at the response! Social media tracks many things, one of them being how many times a video or portion of the video gets played. I was amazed to see that portions of our sermons were being viewed 10-12,000 times each week, and completely viewed almost 1,000 times each week. Within our local context, if someone watches an hour-long sermon, they will most likely have several people with them to watch it. That means that every week, it is possible that several thousand people were pulling up our church's page to watch the sermon. In the weeks since things have begun to reopen, I have had several people walk up to me at random times and thank me for the series I preached entitled, "A Biblical Response to Coronavirus." A setback has certainly become an opportunity!

In the last few days, God has given us an open door to speak with the folks that have had us tied up in court over the church property. Many of you have been praying with us about that. (*The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. -James 5:16*) We have been granted permission by that opposing group to move forward with building, and we are praising God for this amazing breakthrough! It is by His grace alone that we have come this far. The case is still in court, but at least we are at the point where we have been able to share the Gospel with those on the other side. Please continue to pray; God is most certainly at work!

Thank you for being a part of this ministry through your faithful support.

Sincerely,

**Matt, Becky, and the girls**