

Dear Brothers and sisters at Harvest Baptist Church,

The Bible dedication here is finally in the rear-view mirror. We had guests from Germany, Korea, Indonesia and America. Bella and I hosted 17 people between our house and the empty one next door. Most of those folks have left. Most of our former partners were able to make it. There were three men from my home church, as well as five from a church in Germany. The Germans paid a young man to come and video the entire event. He also interviewed us and our former partners. Hopefully we will see this video someday.

There were two ceremonies. One was entirely in the Sekadau language. I shared from the Word about why the Bible is a unique and amazing book. Afterwards we gave out Bibles to the heads of each family in the church. We limited it to those people due to time considerations. Over the next two days we were able to give Bibles to whoever wanted them. Bella and I bought inexpensive books bags for the first 100 people who got Bibles. That nighttime ceremony was very nice. We believe it was encouraging and honoring to God.

The next morning we had the "official" Bible dedication. I was a little concerned about the government officials who were supposed to come. A number of them just didn't show up. The ones who did kept basically within the time frame we gave them. We had several special singing numbers as well as some of the children reciting memorized verses. There was also an opportunity for a few of our visitors to give a short word of encouragement to the church. The ceremony took three hours. It sounds long, but there was so much variety that it didn't seem that long. The man who shared the main message from the Word did a very good job. My back was sore afterwards from sitting on the floor, but that will pass in a day or two. Thank you for your prayers. The dedication went about as well as we could have hoped. After the dedication we had a meal of rice with pork and chicken. Bella and I paid for that. There was a 212 lb. pig, which is big for here. We also had 130 kilos of chicken. I think everyone ate their fill.

Most of our guests are gone now. Our daughter, Cori, is still with us along with some very good friends from the States. They plan to leave on Thursday. We did have a good bit of sickness going from one to the other of us. All of us were sick at some point except Bella. I was so thankful that she was spared that. If she had gotten sick, I would have been "cooking" peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

Bella and I plan to go out to town on the 20<sup>th</sup>. On the 24 we have a flight to the States. We are going home for our regular home assignment. We plan to be home until next January. At that point we plan to return here for a short time in order to finish the revision of all the lessons we want to leave with the folks here. We will also be working on these during our home assignment. We are hoping to be finished by next May or June. After that we have no idea what the Lord has for us. We have no desire to retire so we are hoping to find a ministry to be involved in. Right now we are just open to whatever the Lord has for us. We would appreciate your prayers that we will know what that is when the time comes that we need to know.

We do not have internet right now. Our satellite modem was broken when we got back home earlier this month. I can connect to the internet by bringing my computer and my phone up to a cell phone signal that is about 2 miles from our house on the top of a hill. If I am not able to send these prayer letters out before we go out to town, we should be able to send them when we arrive at our mission home.

Thanks so much for your prayers for us and for the dedication here. We are very happy that things went so well. Thank you too for the \$100 that you sent to us in April. We hope to see many of you during our time on home assignment.

Yours in Christ,

Paul and Bella

Please pray;

1. We just want to thank God that the dedication went well and that He was glorified.
2. Pray for the church in Parobut that they will be of one heart and mind as they serve the Lord together.
3. Pray that we will make good progress in revising the lessons in the Sekadau language.
4. Pray that we will have wisdom from God to know what is next for Bella and me.

The big meal after the dedication ceremony.



Giving a Bible to the Secretary General of our national board.





Some of the current and former members of the Parobut team. We missed the Mehringers and Naomi Swenson.



Some of our visitors from Korea, Germany, Indonesia and the U.S.

