

# The Clark Connection

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August 2007



## Kain Kain Haus

Papua New Guinea is a land of hundreds of different languages (800+). That is why Bible translation is so needed in PNG. In order for

the people of various language groups to communicate with one another and with foreigners like ourselves, a language of wider communication was developed. It is called Tok Pisin and is very similar to English, for which we are grateful! In Tok Pisin, the word "haus" appears in many different words: **haus kapa** (tin-roofed house), **haus kuk** (indoor or outdoor kitchen), **haus kunai** (grass-roofed house), **haus lotu** (house of worship), **haus lain** (neighborhood), and **haus holi** (our bodies when indwelt by God's Holy Spirit), just to name a few. Since our return to Papua New Guinea in May, we've spent a good deal of time in "kain kain haus" (various kinds of houses). But when it comes to houses, King David is our example of single-mindedness with what he says in Psalm 27:4 (NIV).

**Answered Prayers in Red Text**

**Haus Kapa:** Christopher got quite the birthday present this year. **On August 11 we became house-owners!** We are SO thankful for the gifts of God's people that enabled us to purchase this home. Our missionary center is home to about 500 missionaries and their children – all of whom are supporting or doing Bible translation work. Missionaries either own a house or rent from house-owners who are on furlough in their home countries. Our new home is a two bedroom, one office, one bathroom home located conveniently close to the school, post office, worship center, store, main entrance and construction and industrial departments. In fact, when we look out our living room window we can see front loaders, mini-buses and tractors. What boy wouldn't dream of such a view! I, Darlene, am very happy in my large "haus kuk" (kitchen), Christopher is happy about the office and tall cupboards and the boys share a bedroom with plenty of storage space for trucks, books and other favorite toys. Behind our house are a large, flat yard and another small building with laundry, storage and workshop facilities. The yard has potential for 5-Day clubs, gatherings of friends and a small garden. See photo below.

**Haus Kunai:** We've had a few visits to Papua New Guinean village houses since our return. All four of us visited Kay's family in nearby Ukarumpa Village. (Kay is now a young man of 12 years and still spends Sundays with us.) Christopher has spent a few nights in village houses when he was unable to fly back to our home airstrip due to bad weather or a long day of flying. In each case, we are thankful for **opportunities to share truth from God's Word and encourage people to seek God in His temple and dwell in His presence forever.**

## TOK BILONG GOD:

Psalm 27:4

"One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple."



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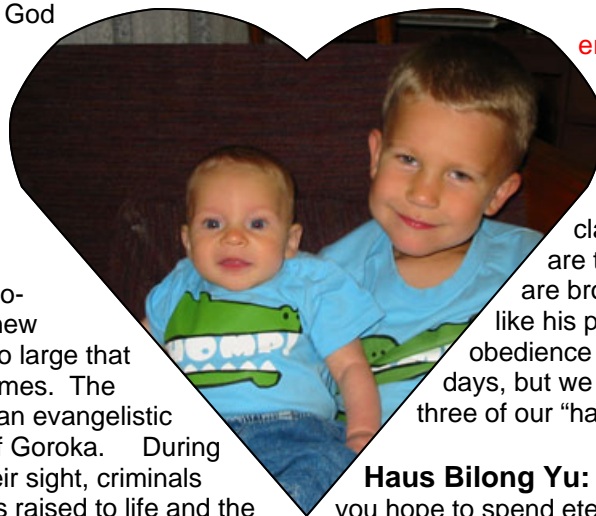
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**Haus Lotu:** Christopher has joined a worship team that leads worship one Saturday night per month at our Center "Haus Lotu." How good and pleasant it is to worship our God with both ex-patriot and Papua New Guinean believers. We also continue to worship Sunday mornings at the Tok Pisin service held on our Center. Nathan and I are involved in Tok Pisin Sunday School – a ministry of our church. My vision is to see each of the teachers (photo at right) equipped and enthusiastic about sharing God's Word with the 80-100 PNG children that come to Sunday School each week. The first of a series of planned workshops was held August 11. It is a joy to see the teachers increasingly prepared for their teaching responsibilities. We are also loosely connected to a village church about 7 miles away. We have been invited to teach the children of this church and others of the same denomination during a week-end conference in September. We praise God for the opportunity to be involved outside of our community.



**Haus Lain:** We have become members of a new "Haus Lain" Bible Study / Fellowship Group since returning to PNG. This neighborhood Bible study group is made up of Papua New Guinean co-workers who mostly live near our new house. The group has become so large that we meet on the lawn at various homes. The leaders of the group recently held an evangelistic crusade in a village near the city of Goroka. During the crusade, the blind regained their sight, criminals were born again, a dead infant was raised to life and the crippled were able to walk again! Jesus name is being powerfully proclaimed here in PNG. It is our privilege to fellowship weekly with these people who believe God and who daily seek Him in His House.



**Haus Bilong God:** Even though we feel more settled into life here in PNG in our own house, we are reminded by King David that the temporal "haus kapa" we call home is not our permanent home. Pray with us that we would daily seek God in His House and practice what we will be doing for eternity: giving God glory and enjoying Him forever while living inside the "haus holi" He has created.

**SPECIAL REQUEST:**  
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**Haus Holi:** We were chosen in Christ before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. (Ephesians 1:4) Our lives are to be a "haus holi" – a holy home for God's Spirit to dwell. Christopher has been learning about nurturing our hunger for God through prayer and fasting. An admonition from our local pastor to be fervent in prayer, as well as a book by John Piper, Hungering for God, have been quite helpful in inspiring and nurturing an increasing hunger for God, to truly seek first the kingdom of Heaven and to set our eyes and minds on things above where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

I, Darlene, am discovering that it is easy to become frustrated in the task of caring for and training two boys at home. When I hear and obey my own advice to Nathan . . . Go sing out to Jesus and tell Him that you NEED Him! . . . personal holiness in the home is much easier to realize!

Nathan has reaffirmed to us several times that Jesus has cleaned his heart from sin and that he indeed is believing in Jesus. Recently, upon hearing that one of his friends back in America received Jesus as his Savior, Nathan exclaimed "Now David, Jesse, and me are triplets!" That is, all three friends are brothers in Christ now. Nathan, just like his parents, is far from perfect and joyful obedience seems hard to come by some days, but we are seeing progress towards all three of our "haus holis" looking more like Jesus.

**Haus Bilong Yu:** What about you? What house do you hope to spend eternity in and what do you hope to see and do in that house? What house(s) are you now spending your time in? Whatever kind it may be, we pray that Jesus is the foundation, the door, the décor, the washroom, and the resting place. And we pray that we'll be gazing upon the beauty of the LORD forever, together.

- Please Pray:**
1. That our sons Nathan and Nehemiah would fear God and keep His commandments.
  2. That many will come to know God as we help conduct a week-end Bible Club this September and work alongside others in Sunday School.
  3. For wisdom, patience, love, and joy for Darlene as she nurtures and instructs our two young men, Kay, and a number of Papuans in God's Words and ways.
  4. For safety, integrity, wisdom and skill in Christopher's work as a pilot and a Check & Training Captain.
  5. A continual hunger for God in our own lives, that they may be honoring to Him and beneficial to others.