

Nov. 2018

## The Larsons Restoration & Development in Papua New Guinea



### *It is a season of Thanksgiving and we have a great deal to be thankful for!*

It started off as a simple task. One of our vehicles needed the engine's computer to be wiped and reprogrammed at the dealership in Lae. Drive down to Lae, reboot, come back the next day.

Shortly before leaving we learned that another of our vehicles was stranded in Lae with a burned out clutch and needed to be trailered back to Ukarumpa for repair. So now we were to drive the rescue truck and trailer to Lae with the first truck on the back, switch around the load and drive back. Still not a big deal.

We left early Sunday morning, which is not typical. Normally we do all of our work during the week. About an hour and a half into the trip we learned that there had been an accident somewhere on the Highlands Highway and others from the shop were on their way. But we had no details about the location, severity, whether we were expected to respond or even if it was in front or behind us. So we continued toward Lae in hopes of a better phone signal soon.

### *This is how God works!*

About three and a half hours from Ukarumpa I saw a crumpled wreck way off the road and recognized it as one of our vehicles. Everybody on site was okay and the injured had already been removed from the scene and cared for. We were able to winch the wreck onto the trailer to take back to Ukarumpa. The only reason we even had the rescue truck/trailer was the last-moment, non-emergency retrieval in Lae *and* we had another drivable vehicle on the back. The others from the shop arrived, took the rescue truck/trailer and wreck back to the Highlands and we continued to Lae in the truck that we had been towing. We were already on the way to the scene of the wreck before it happened which shortened the response time by approximately two hours. There were two doctors and an RN following the wrecked vehicle so they were on-site within a few minutes. Despite not having phone reception in that location the rest of the day, the driver was able to call for help and got through when the accident occurred. The injured were air-lifted to safety and are expected to make a full recovery. The event has also led us to find better communication technology for this environment.

Not over yet... The trip back to Ukarumpa took some extra time as well; after all, this is the Land of the Unexpected. A little more than halfway back to Ukarumpa we found out the road was blocked by another wreck somewhere in the Highlands. So we had to find a place to stay in Ramu Valley. It turned out to be fine; just an unexpected two hour detour and overnight stay. The road was cleared the next day and we headed out again. All good until about 5 miles



outside of Ukarumpa where a tree had fallen across powerlines and the road. Since we equipped the rescue truck with two 12 thousand lbs winches, we were able to clear the road instead of waiting for help...

Working in the Auto Shop is not glamorous. But when we are obedient to do the work God has given us, God will use that obedience. And God used a mundane trip to Lae to work in a situation so that both a carload of medical professionals and a recovery vehicle were en-route before anyone had even called for help. And we are thankful.

## Other Exciting News

I (Evan) have been asked to help with a **community development project in Western Province**. This is far down in the southwest of PNG, near Morehead. A friend of ours has been working on a translation down there for several years and expressed that it would be really helpful if another person could help with a short term project. The hope was to find someone who has a technical background and is comfortable staying out in a village for a month. I can happily check both of those boxes.

Tentative dates are from the middle of January into February sometime. Please pray for Liz and the kids during this time. And pray for the plans and details to come together. If the aviation schedule works out then the financial strain regarding transportation is considerably reduced. Due to the remote location however, it can be difficult to find enough other passengers to fill a flight.



*Morehead is located in Western Province, southwest PNG*

### Praise:

- Thank the Lord that everyone involved in the recent car accident are expected to make a full recovery.
- Thanks that respondents were already on the way, before the call came in.

### Please continue to pray with us:

- Please pray about the opportunity to serve in Western Province.
- Pray for Liz and the kids, logistics and finances.

Questions or feedback?  
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