Harms' Happenings

SCRIPTURE USE IN THE NINIGO ISLANDS

Patexux *Seimat* Translation Team

Theresa Michael Orderly Selep Beata Rudolf Stanley

For those who prayed for my trip last month to the Ninigo Islands with Beata Wozna & Theresa Wilson: *Kemulik wanen* (thank you)! Our trip could not have been better. When we landed on Mal, the tides were just right to load the boat with our cargo and head to Patexux where we spent the first 13 days conducting a Scripture Use workshop which included composing and recording music, dramas and Sunday School programs utilizing the completed *Seimat* New Tesatament. *Seimat* reading competitions were held for the adults and school, and I had several opportunities to speak and even teach the 7th grade class Math and English lessons (those children with the most experience in English). The children on Patexux attend school on the neighboring island of Similam. After 13 days on Patexux, we

First Day: Off to Patexux Island

packed up and headed back to Mal where we repeated the program. People traveled from seven other islands to attend the workshops. The *Seimat* people are generous hosts. I especially enjoyed getting to know them and the beautiful place they live.
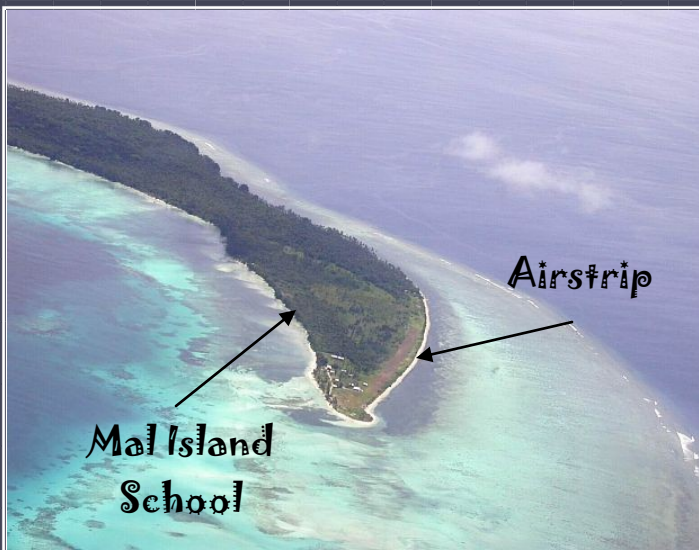
Beata took the opportunity during the workshop to interview several members of the *Seimat* Translation Team. She asked, "What important things did you learn in the process of translation when you started reading and learning God's Word in your own language?" One answered, "Loving and forgiving others are the most important things to me because these two things are really impossible for a person to do. How can I love someone who mistreats me or forgive someone who hates me? But God's love for us is very different. He has shown us His love for us by giving His Son to die on the cross for our sins, so we might have eternal life. If I say I love someone, but I don't forgive him, my love is not true. Love and forgiveness work together." Another answered, " I learned that Jesus is the Son of God. When Jesus taught people, he used stories and pictures to help us to understand how much God loves us and how much God wants us to know Him as a Father. One other thing that I learned about Jesus is: Jesus is the Savior who came down to earth and died on the cross to save us from God's anger. What is amazing is that Jesus became a human being, and he showed us how to love and serve each other."

Make A Joyful Noise

Airstrip

Mal Island
School

Similam Island
School

Patexux Island

At Similam Island and Mal Island Schools

Dorothy & me with her 2 girls
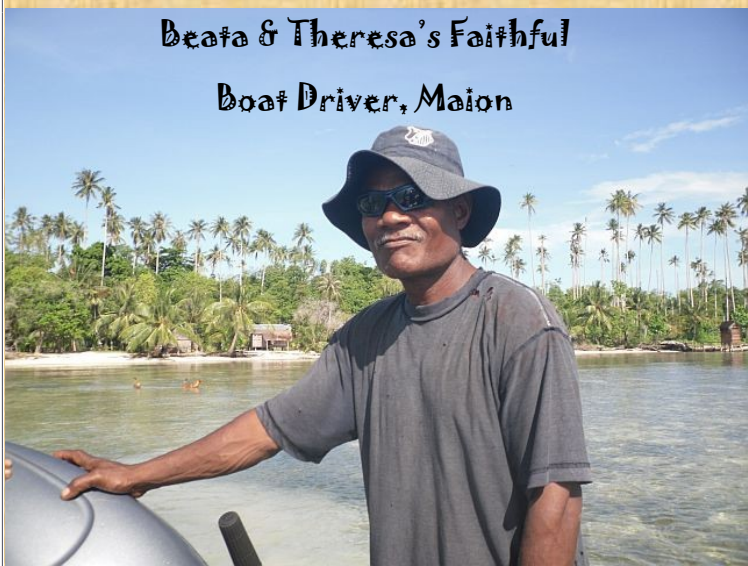
Much of the fishing is done with spear guns

A day off to fish and explore

Dorothy quickly spotted & speared this stingray before any of us stepped on it!

Beata & Theresa's Faithful Boat Driver, Maion

...then promptly cooked it over a fire. It was actually really good!

There aren't any stores or markets in the Niningo Islands. The Seimat people live off what they can grow on land and catch in the sea. Their primary source of protein is fish. It was a treat for me to have fresh fish again!

Eel

Giant Clam –YUM!

John is one of the main Seimat translation helpers from Mal.
He is holding a kaniup
(green coconut for drinking)

Thank you for partnering with us in the task of Bible Translation! We wouldn't be here without you!