

John & Lena Allen

serving in

Papua New Guinea

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CONFERENCE SEASON

The ending of pandemic restrictions gave us back the joy of meeting together with the brethren in three conferences in the last three months.

NATIONAL PASTORS' CONFERENCE

The local Baptist churches in Port Moresby co-hosted the national conference under the leadership of Pastor Paul Lahari at Bible Baptist, and they did a good job of it. BBC provided the venue and lots of ever-present assistance, and many churches from the city joined hands to take turns cooking the meals, feeding the crowd, and leading the services. Thank the Lord for being able to hear the Word preached and to fellowship with some brothers we haven't seen in years.

BBIPOM CONFERENCE

Baptist Bible Institute of Port Moresby hosted its first annual conference right on the heels of the National Conference. It was so good to see our students looking sharp as we enjoyed the teaching from Pastor Cranston Knowles from the Bahamas and Pastor Ed Thierbach



from the USA. A highlight of the conference was the round-table discussion by the more seasoned PNG pastors regarding balancing ministry and family. It was a blessing to our students and to the pastors in attendance. We trust the Lord will allow us to continue holding these special meetings.

IRON SHARPENETH IRON CONFERENCE

In early November I spent a few days in Lae City, PNG, where I was honored to be part of the "Iron Sharpeneth

Iron" Conference hosted by Pastor Michael Saka of Tent Siti Baptist Church. There were several dozen pastors in attendance, plus many of their wives. I was privileged to speak alongside Missionary Pastor Dala Momo (from PNG, who serves among the Aboriginal people of Australia). It was a biblically sound, theologically rich conference that God used to speak straight to our hearts. It was definitely a time of refreshing and challenge!

PRESSING IN & PRESSING ON

I want to thank all of you who have labored with us in prayer for Lena's health. This has been a long, difficult season for us. Recently she has seen some relief, and has actually started to feel alive. I do not take this for granted, and I definitely praise the Lord for it.

Having just taught on prayer in Bible college here, and also teaching on it currently in our Wednesday evening fellowship meetings in Boroko, I am all the more aware that the answers we get from the Lord in answer to prayer are pure grace. He calls us to pray; but more than that, He calls us to trust. What rich lessons we have been learning *by experience* about trust—and what encouraging lessons we have been learning about God's providence and wisdom. Difficult seasons test and prove our faithfulness to God, but more importantly, they build our faith in His faithfulness to us.

Please continue to pray for us. The harvest is great, and the open doors are many. In two weeks, Lena and I will celebrate 45 years of being married, with one-third of that time being in PNG. 40 years of our marriage has been invested in full-time ministry. There is much to do here for our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Keep praying for us!

Because He Is,
John & Lena Allen
Philippians 1:27

Updates & photos: johnallen.ttmk.org
Baptist Bible Institute of Port Moresby: bbipom.com