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Dear Friends,

At public events in PNG, speakers begin with acknowledgements and thanks to each official who will also speak at the podium, the organizers of the event, a long list of other people and the audience. After the second and third speaker continue with the same (with applause occurring between each person mentioned) some in the audience may tire and want to move on to the main events. However, people appreciate being thanked and acknowledged!

PIM schools begin the school year in February and it's not just the teachers involved in preparations. We truly are thankful for all other PIM employees involved in the support aspects of the education ministry. Including office personnel, carpenters, plumbers, mechanics, outboard motor drivers and even those who cut the grass. One area where we are grateful for an employee's faithful work is in the obtaining of fuel. Petrol is crucial for the transport of teachers and supplies to their school allocations. For Joseph Ogmu, (and his wife Colleen in picture) our manager in Wewak, obtaining fuel supplies at the coastal port has been frustratingly difficult for almost a year! Due to foreign currency exchange problems the supply ship carrying fuel arrives sporadically. When it does come Joseph and other customers must wait for days at the fuel depot to get only five petrol drums per shipment (limited by the company) Then the fuel is

loaded on a truck and driven five hours by road to the Sepik River, where the load is transferred manually into dugout canoes, and transported two hours upriver to Ambunti (our base) where it is carefully unloaded.

We just received the first five drums of petrol along with some diesel and it was an answer to our prayers! Teachers soon will be coming to Ambunti by river for some training and their supplies. Last year 2,270 students were in schools under PIM.

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. Galatians 6:9-10

Douglas Heidema

