

It is time for sharing

Hope more than ever!

Dear Brethren,

Jan. 2026

Upon returning to Palau after our medical furlough, it was still beautiful but my wife and I felt a languidly tensive spiritual oppression lying across our island's people more than ever before. It reminded me of visiting the Rastafarian camp with our preacher boys and the Rasta leaders told us that Marijuana was their secret herb for opening the door to the demonic realm. That visit felt like a wool blanket hanging around our shoulders inside a sauna with low jolts of electricity making the goose bumps rise all over your body, but I'm speaking spiritually of course. This heavy weight was a spiritual oppression that seemed to affect the attitudes throughout Palau.

Weeks passed as we settled in, checking on every member of our church and that's when we met James at the Post Office. He was a fairly typical looking Palauan man but he had some strange physical "tics", plus he would swat at things that weren't there. That's when he told us he wanted to become a preacher for the "lord" and come work with us in our church. He wanted to know what he needed to do. It sounded like Simon in Acts 8 hanging out with Philip before Peter came. The Holy Spirit impressed upon both Andrew (my son) and I to take great caution. His unusual mannerism concerned us, but if a person wants to serve the Lord, we were excited to see if we could encourage that. So, we set an appointment to meet at the community center near his house to go over his salvation experience on Friday.

He was early and waiting for us when we arrived, *that was an unusual thing to start with*, islanders are often late. His, what we thought were "tics", and quirky ducking and swatting unseen objects continued. In spite of this, we needed to hear his understanding of salvation and why he thought he was qualified to become a preacher not to mention a pastor.

He explained his history on several islands and in several churches plus a stint in the army. All ended the same way with him being mentally unstable and either asked to leave or be hospitalized in the psychiatric department. His salvation experience was anything but Biblical. He began with telling us one night, after moving in with his girlfriend, he experienced an episode where something took over his body and mind and led him out to the middle of the jungle. He was standing for an unknown period of time. His worried girlfriend searched and found him catatonically standing in the middle of nowhere. This experience included him seeing unexplainable things, feeling things grab him and the loss of memory. This was his definition of his salvation experience. We told him, "Wow! That is wrong in so many ways." Then we opened our Bibles to read and discuss what true salvation is.

We covered the plan of salvation and pointed out that Jesus died for sinners and we were all sinners. Suddenly multiple "voices" coming out of the man showed he was completely demon possessed. The voices were followed by deep growls and even more physical swatting of invisible entities then falling on the ground and hiding his face from us. That's when he screamed out so loud the whole neighborhood heard him and people came out to see what it was.

We prayed, read the Bible and talked to him for hours that night and his "deep voice" stopped only long enough to identify who we were, **"You men of God."** Then his ranting would continue for long stretches of time. Finally we demanded the demons to leave him alone long enough to get James to **recognize** his need of a Savior and to **repent** of his sins. That's when a "high shrieking childlike voice" spoke out saying, **"Blessed is Jesus."** Then he started talking to us saying he's not repenting and telling the whole truth, **"Ask him about his sister...and his mother... and the man he killed..."** Unfortunately, after many hours with James our meeting that night didn't end with his salvation neither did the next several meetings. But eventually, he did realize he couldn't serve the Lord with demons inside of him and **without true repentance he could never be saved**. We told him demons are not a "blessing from God"! He had a hard time grasping this truth. Pray for James to recognize his need for genuine salvation.

Brethren, please pray for:

- 1) The folks who are unwilling to acknowledge and truly repent of their sins to God. Thinking that they can serve God in their old sinful ways is totally wrong. The youth especially need to understand this truth today. Even cartoons are teaching this evil!
- 2) The growing spiritual battles and the oppression we see in this very deprived world.
- 3) One young man did follow the Lord in Believers Baptism during this same time frame.
- 4) Please pray for Basio's faithfulness to follow the Lord and **not** the homosexual demonic crowd.



Here's what God says about demon possession - Rom. 10:8-13; Acts 8:21-23; 17:30, 31; 2 Cor. 6:14-15; 1 Cor. 10:21; Eph. 5:11; 6:12; 1 Pt. 5:8-9 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VrWvYuypsB8> **Warning to children and parents!** Ph#670-285-4661
Our local address until Joshua & family return is: PO Box 506399, Saipan, MP 96950



We couldn't do all we do without your prayers and faithful support.
We are Your Missionaries & Partners in His Service,
Thank You VERY MUCH!

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