

**From: Itutang (a tribe in the Madang region)**

Ankererge, a chief in an Inapang tribal village, went upstream with some others from his village to buy a small motor for the village canoe earlier this month. In the wet and humid lowlands of Papua New Guinea, rivers are like roads. A village canoe with a motor allows better access to trade by cutting their travel time to town from three or four days to one.

The trouble started on the way back.

A nearby village where many related Inapang live -- a village that is a step up the social ladder from Ankererge's village -- took Ankererge and his neighbors to village court over who could use the canoe and motor and when.

The discussion grew heated, and as Ankererge's group turned to leave, a man from the other village struck Kuamp from behind.

Kuamp, who like Ankererge has placed his faith in Christ, simply turned and said to his assailant, "That's OK. I don't have any strength to hit you back. I have already died to that." And then they left.

After Ankererge returned to his own village, missionary Kelley Housley could tell he was upset.

But he wasn't upset about what had happened in the other village. He was upset about missing the daily meetings that the believers have been having with Kelley and her husband, Bill.

Ankererge and his fellow Itutangs come from a belief system where doing the right things leads to rewards, and not doing them leads to bad things happening. So Kelley initially tried to reassure him that missing the meetings was OK.

Ankererge stopped her.

"No Kelley, I am worried about it because I didn't want to miss it," he told her. "I heard some of the guys talking about what Bill shared on Thursday and Friday and I wanted to have been there too!"