

From: Mariama village (Sepik Region)- The gospel is being presented as I write this.

"Please let us in! We believe you now Noah!" some of the Bagwido people shouted as they took part in a drama with missionaries Thursday in Papua New Guinea.

"If you will not take us, at least take our babies into the ark with you."



"But it was too late," missionary Brian Holmquist told the crowd. "The people rejected God and His way, and they were lost in the flood."

After two lessons about Noah, a Bagwido man, Rafael, stood and said, "God saw all this bad and He said 'I will destroy them.' So He asked Noah to build the ark and then He said, 'Okay, I will start the rain.' Then He started the rain and the flood destroyed everybody. At that time, only people that agreed with God lived. Now here we are today. We are people that go our own way and still get our dirty inner being from Adam and Eve. We live like nobody ever knew God. How did that happen?"

"The lesson ... about Noah and the flood ... was probably our most powerful lesson so far,"

wrote Brian and Andrea Holmquist. "Every man, woman, child, dog and chicken was there to hear this one. The anticipation was very high because our people have had their own Noah story for years and years, about a half rat, half man that made a big boat. They wanted to see how their story fit with this True Talk."

Rafael stood a second time and said, "People, listen to me, I am telling you, our (ancestor) stories are not true. Only God's Talk is true!"

"Wow," the Holmquists wrote, "after he sat back down the four of us missionaries just looked at each other with tears in our eyes thinking, 'We are seeing God moving right before our eyes. They are not only tracking with this teaching, but they are believing it.'"

The Tower of Babel was another powerful lesson last week. The people were amazed as they heard the biblical account of how God confounded the languages of the world. The Bagwidos have always believed a story that the people all stood in a line, then someone cut their tongues and they all spoke different languages.

"As we walk back and forth from the teaching, and are in the village talking to people about what they have heard, we just shake our heads in amazement," Brian and Andrea wrote. "We can't even explain how privileged we are to have a front row seat here as God works in the hearts of our friends."

Pray for the Holmquists and their co-workers Mark and Holly Woodard as they continue teaching and talking to the Bagwidos about God's Word. Pray that the people will fully comprehend how God's Word gives them the way to a personal relationship with Him.