



THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS,
AND THANK YOU TO ALL OUR
FINANCIAL PARTNERS.

JULY 2025

MATTHEW & SARAH THOMPSON

Taking God's word to those who haven't heard

Hello friends,

This July, we had the privilege of spending time in the village of Mot, where we've begun learning the Murkim language and immersing ourselves in the local culture. To give you a glimpse into what that can look like, we'd like to share a short story written by Matthew.

You know when you have an idea that's great till it's not. This is one of those stories. One day, I joined one of my Murkim friends in his garden and found out I'd be planting cassava. Cassava is a tuber, root vegetable, kind of like a potato. The edible part grows underground, while a tall, skinny stalk grows above. My friend, Tarson, showed me how to plant it. You cut the stalk into 8–10 inch pieces, called "starts," and jab holes in the dirt with a stick. Then, you plant three starts in each hole—with the little buds pointing up. Simple, right? At first, I had no idea what a "bud" even looked like. Honestly, I was just guessing. But eventually, I got it down and was feeling pretty proud of myself.

That's when the idea hit me: "What a great gospel illustration!" Just like cassava buds need to face the sun to live and grow, we need to turn to Jesus—the Son—in faith to have eternal life and grow spiritually. I even planned out my leading question: "If it's planted bud-down, will it grow?" I imagined they would answer with a resounding, "No!" I would then share the good news of Jesus with them.

But... As we were finishing up, I realized that for the last quarter of the planting, I had been putting the buds in upside down. I began fixing my mistake and told Tarson what I'd done. I asked him, "If it's planted bud-down, will it grow?" He smiled and said, "Yeah, most likely, just leave them."

I'm happy to report, although my illustration was flipped on its head, all of the cassava is growing nicely, and so is our knowledge of the language and culture.

With our second baby, Malachi, due at the end of August, we've returned to Sentani (the city) to be near a hospital. Please pray for a safe delivery for Sarah and Malachi.

Here's a link <https://youtu.be/Vk29MCFJXRo> to a video update on our life and ministry since the start of the year. If you're reading this as a representative of your church, we'd be grateful if you could share it with your congregation.

In Christ's love,

Matthew, Sarah, & Azariah



Prayer Requests & Needs

- The translation team selection process
- Language and culture learning
- Safe delivery for Sarah and Malachi



Matthew planting cassava



Azariah exploring the jungle



Sarah in a language session

EMAIL- MKTHOMPSON0722@GMAIL.COM
WEBSITE- WWW.MKTHOMPSON.NET

Sending Church: Sublett Road Baptist Church
PO Box 172076 Arlington, TX 76003 Please make checks payable to
Sublett Road Baptist Church CC: Matthew Thompson