

May 2011

Ningun gave birth to Nyapai in 1975. She was alone in an isolated rocky place. She placed her newborn in a hole amongst the rocks and left him to die. When she returned home her daughters asked where the baby was. They hurried to the place and discovered the baby still alive. They scraped the ants from his body, took him home and insisted their mother feed him.

After Nyapai's father died, Nyapai took the responsibility of caring for his mother, bringing her firewood and food. "When you were born I left you to die. Who would look after me now if you had?" she said before she died in 1994. After his father's death Nyapai, whom we know as Lindon, got to thinking about the past leaders of the Minimib people, including his father who was the first elected leader. "As I thought about the future I felt very sad, feeling there was no real leader to take care of God's people. But someone touched my shoulder: 'Do not cry my child; one day your tears will be dry.' I turned around but I did not see anyone."



Lindon rescues a butterfly which has found its way inside our house

In 1997 Lindon attended our teacher training course. In 2005 we wrote to Timothy asking if he could try to find someone to work with us to translate the New Testament into the Minimib language. When we arrived back, Lindon met us at the airstrip. "I want to help translate the New Testament into Minimib. When can we start?" Thanks to his enthusiasm and the Lord's blessing on his Word and the work of translating it, the Minimib people received the New Testament in 2009. Lindon sees the Word of God in his language as the fulfillment of his dream and the Lord's answer to his prayers. "God's good Word is Himself the good Leader. Jesus comes to us through his Word. He is the Leader who is quietly inside the hearts and thoughts of those people who belong to him - Christ Jesus, the Word of God. Only this Leader can ensure the future will be good."



Nola (left) An (right) Sylvia and Belinda (center)

Lindon, together with Joel, is superintendent of the Kaironk school district with 29 teachers and 668 students in 16 schools. Lindon is married to Nola. Their first child Sylvia was born in 2004. Their other child, Belinda, was given by her mother An - the sister who had rescued Lindon as a baby. She knew Lindon and Nola - and Sylvia - very much wanted another baby and would love her to death.

In His Love and Grace,

John and Maila

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