

# e-SCR@PBOOK

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## Month in Vila

We scheduled to be in Vila for the month of June because of the Pacific Islands Bible College (PIBC) courses and the Bakers' visit to Tanna.

Scott Richards came and taught classes on Hermeneutics and The Epistles of Peter and John for two weeks. The courses were conducted in Epau Village in the mornings, and then repeated in Port Vila in the evenings. Many of the local brethren have been taking these annual courses for several years, and always look forward to this time.

Additionally, new students are added each year. It was my pleasure to assist Scott with transportation and some translation, and I enjoyed getting to know him better.

The Bakers made their annual trip to Vanuatu, spending a couple of weeks in Tanna teaching PIBC courses. Rocco Pierce taught Sermon & Lesson

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## Girl Time

Shawnda thoroughly enjoyed some "girl time" when Cindy, Tabitha and Holly returned from their 11 day trip to Tanna. The four of them were instant friends, and have already scheduled a girls' weekend for

later this year. The bond we share in Christ is truly a blessing. Our entire family really enjoyed the company of the Bakers, Tabitha, Holly and Rocco for a few days.



**MS JACQUI:** We met Howard and Jacqui when they were volunteers in Malekula. Ms. Jacqui is back in Santo for 2 months and we stayed two nights with her there.



**WORK:** Peter and Timothy proudly pose in front of the Etas church building. They worked hard cutting, splitting, and weaving the bamboo walls the day before.



**CUPPA:** Living in the Pacific means we've gotten used to sharing a "cuppa" with friends. This month, Titus enjoyed his very first baby-chino at a cafe in town.

Preparation and Aaron taught The Work of the Church. The Bakers were also accompanied by Tabitha and Holly, who attend one of the Bakers' supporting congregations. When they heard Aaron's presentation on the work several months ago, their hearts were touched to go and experience this mission field first hand. They were a blessing to the work.

The opportunity to be with all these brethren for a few days was truly a blessing to our family. We love Vanuatu and call it our home, but friends and brethren from the States will always be close to our hearts.



**Above: Scott Richards teaching PIBC in Vila**



**Left: During a break, Sam reviews some main points from the lesson with sisters who don't understand English well**



**Assembly in Etas Village, celebrating the Bakers' visit to Vanuatu.**



**Students in Epau and Eton have jokingly come to refer to the PIBC exams as "judgment day" :).**



**Students in Vila pose with Scott after completing two weeks of classes**





## Weekend in Santo

You'll recall that back in 2011 when we moved to Malekula and the Bakers moved to Tanna, that Mike relocated to Espiritu Santo (Vanuatu's largest island, located just north of Malekula). There were a few pockets of Christians there, but they were not assembling, and Mike went with the goal of getting these brethren together for edification and encouragement. As a result of God's blessing those efforts, there is a group of Christians meeting in Shark Bay on the east side of Santo.

Mike is in the United States for the majority of this year, and had asked that we try our best to get over to Santo at least once in his absence to encourage the brethren. It worked out well for us to schedule a weekend-layover in Santo on the way to Malekula at the end of this month. The brethren are very spread out, with a few

living at Shark Bay, some living in town (Luganville) and some living at a secondary school in Matevulu.

Just making it to the assembly can be a real challenge. For instance, Jesse borrowed a bicycle from a friend and rode the 35 kilometers out to Shark Bay, while Paul and his family (as well as several students) had to walk a few kilometers out to the main road to catch a transport. Everyone made it safe and sound, and it was a pleasure to spend the day together.

They asked me to preach during the assembly, and the song service was especially up-lifting. We ate lunch together, dammed up the creek nearby so the kids could all have a swim, and then shared a bag-load of our second clothes. We were all encouraged by our time together.





**SANTO: Swimming in the creek, eating, and sharing**



**Dishwashing crew in Etas Village**



**PIBC students in Epau Village**