

# Vula'a; Papua New Guinea



## Papua New Guinea's Fast Facts:

Number of people:

**6,732,000**

Main language:

**English**

Main religion:

**Christianity**

# of languages:

**838**

# of languages ...

without any of the Bible: **467**

with part of the Bible: **122**

with a New Testament: **234**

with a whole Bible: **15**

## Did you know?

Papua New Guinea is one of two countries that share the island of New Guinea, the second biggest island in the world (the other half of the island belongs to the country of Indonesia). And around the main island are more than 600 islands that are part of Papua New Guinea too!

The main island rises into a big range of mountains called the Highlands. The mountains and trees are so hard to walk through that people were isolated (that means kept far away from other places or people) for a really long time! And even today, many people are still isolated from each other. That's one of the reasons why there are so many different languages spoken in Papua New Guinea. Most of the island is covered in tropical rain forest because it is so close to the equator, but in the very highest mountains it sometimes snows! The island is also home to a lot of different types of plants and animals. Papua New Guinea is part of the Pacific "Ring of Fire," so there are a lot of earthquakes, mud slides, tsunamis (or big tidal waves) and volcanic eruptions.

Did you know that Papua New Guinea has more Bible translation needs than any other country in the world except Indonesia? More than half of its 838 languages are still waiting for the Bible in their own language. But the people who speak the Vula'a language (around 3,240 people) are getting God's Word soon, and that means one more people group in Papua New Guinea can read what God is saying to them. Now that's exciting news!

## You can pray ...

The New Testament was finished back in 1954, but now the team is working to revise it. That means they're making sure it still makes sense in today's world, where times and language sometimes change and the meaning of older translations starts to get confusing. They're also working on translating the Old Testament so that the Vula'a can have the whole Bible soon! You can pray for the team, because many of them are old, and some of the first team members have already died. Pray that they keep making good progress and that they find new people to help in the translation so that the Vula'a people can have both the Old and New Testaments in their language.

