

PNG Flag Book

by Kathy Stoker

Many of you are familiar with The Wordless Book. The pages are different colours and they tell the gospel story – black, red, white, green and gold. Using this idea and the colours of the Papua New Guinean flag I have created a gospel story book that is very appropriate for this country. The colours on the PNG flag are black, red, white and yellow. Below are the instructions on how to make the book.



How to make the book:

GOALS: To make a PNG Flag Book to be used in Elementary Schools (for Religious Education class or Cultural Studies class), in Sunday Schools and Churches, and during Independence Celebrations (September 16, 1975) in your area. To promote Scripture Use if you translate this book into your local language. To encourage adults and children to read in your local language.

SUPPLIES: For each book, you will need A4 card/cover stock: 1.5 black, 3 bright red, 1.1 white, 1.25 bright yellow. Also wide sticky tape, glue stick (do not use the watery kind), scissors, pattern for Bird of Paradise and 5-point stars. You can find bits and pieces of gold shiny paper from old Christmas card covers (for the middle of the yellow page). To keep the book clean and dry, use clear Contact Paper (or “peel & stick”) for both covers. Then bind with black binding tape (cloth tape). Optional: small PNG flag.

Order of Pages:

- Page 1 is the Front cover (the PNG Flag);
- Page 2 is where you put the Scripture Romans 3:23;
- Page 3 is totally black (and faces page 2);
- Page 4 is the verse Romans 5:8-9;
- Page 5 is totally red (and faces page 4);
- Page 6 is Mark 9:3;
- Page 7 is totally white (and faces page 6);
- Page 8 is 2 Corinthians 4:6 and Revelation 21:21b;
- Page 9 is totally yellow with gold shiny paper in the middle;
- Page 10 is the Title Page & who made the book & the meaning of the front cover;

Page 11 is blank, or you can put the Tok Pisin explanation of the National Anthem & National Pledge, or you can have the National Anthem translated into the local language and put it on Page 11;

Page 12 is the Back cover where you put the Anthem and Pledge in English. Pages 11 & 12 can be swapped.

Title Page: PNG Flag Book (Pg 10)

The Government of PNG made the PNG flag on 1 July, 1971. A school student named Susan Huhume from Gulf Province won the contest in 1971 for drawing the new PNG flag.

We can use this PNG flag book in our churches and Sunday School classes, and we can use this book in our Elementary Schools (in Religious Instruction class or in Cultural Studies class) in our own language area. We can use this PNG flag book on Independence Day each year, 16 September 1975.

Our local language is _____ in _____ Province.
The population is _____
(Your Name) _____ made this PNG Flag Book at the
_____ course at (village/city) _____, on
_____ 20__.

E.g. (In April 2008, K. Stoker from SIL, Ukarumpa, EHP 444, PNG created this flag book and put Bible verses for each colour in the flag. ISBN 9980-0-3610-9)

Meaning of the Front Cover

God created all of the birds and all of the stars in the sky (Genesis 1:16-17). The Bird of Paradise is the national bird of PNG. The "Southern Cross" is the main constellation (picture) of stars in the night sky in the southern hemisphere. Our country, PNG, is in the southern hemisphere, below the equator.

Meaning of Key Words in the Bible Verses:

(For your information. This is not printed in the book.)

Sin: Romans 3:23

All people have sinned and everyone has fallen short of God's goodness and glory. This means that we are dirty, we do bad things, and we are not holy like God.

Blood: Romans 5:8-9

God showed His love for us by sending His only Son, to shed His blood and to die on the cross so that we could be forgiven of our sins. Jesus blood wipes away all of our sin, our badness, our filthiness. We are saved from God's punishment by confessing our sins and by believing in Jesus.

Forgiveness; Mark 9:3

God takes away our sins and makes us whole; we become clean, white and pure on the inside. We become part of God's family and we are at peace with Him.

Heaven: 2 Corinthians 4:6

If we believe in God and Jesus, we will go to heaven when we die. Heaven is where everything is bright and shiny and full of God's glory.

Revelation 21:21b The streets in the City (heaven) are made of pure gold and are like shiny glass.

Salvation:

We can be saved if we confess that we are sinners, that Jesus died on the cross and shed His own blood to cover our sins; we believe that God has forgiven us of our sins and that God has made us clean; and we can look forward to a home in heaven with God when we die, because He gives us new life.

Meaning of Key Words in the Song and Promise (Pg 11)

If you are doing the book in vernacular you could write the definitions in vernacular and use the book for English lessons as well.

National: bilong nation (nesan) o kantri bilong yumi i Papua New Guinea

Anthem: song o singsing

Free: yumi nogat bos o lida husat holim yumi insait long kalabus o we bilong ol yet; na yumi ken mekim tok o mekim wok o mekim tingting bilong laik bilong mipela yet.

Joy o Rejoice: hamamas na givim tenkyu long God

Name: nem bilong dispela kantri i Papua Niu Gini o Papua New Guinea

Proclaim: singaut strong o tok strong

Kindness: marimari bilong Papa God

Wisdom: gutpela save bilong Papa God

Love: bikpela laik bilong Papa God ... em i save soim long yumi olgeta.

Independent: i olsem fri, nogat kalabus, nogat narapela kantri husat i bosim yumi

Meaning of Key Words in the Pledge (Pg 11)

Pledge: promis o soim hamamas long kantri na olgeta manmeri insait long dispela kantri

United: bung o join wantaim na olgeta manmeri i wanbel na wanpela tingting

Pay homage: soim hamamas (o rispekt) long God, kantri, na olgeta manmeri

Cultural heritage: gutpela we o wok o pasin bilong yumi i kam long tumbuna o bubu

Source of strength: strong bilong yumi i kam long gutpela pasin bilong grasruts

Democratic society: olgeta pipol long olgeta komuniti i ken mekim stretpela lo

Justice: stretpela pasin

Equality: yumi olgeta i wankain insait long lo

Respect: soim hamamas;

Prosperity: planti gutpela samting long olgeta manmeri

Stand together: joinim han na sanap strong na mekim gutpela wok

Wherever I have shown this book, Papua New Guineans are always enthusiastic about obtaining a copy. Christian principles are part of the National Constitution so it is very appropriate that they be reminded of God's love and his sending Jesus to save the world when they are also remembering their history.

Kathy Stoker came to PNG in 1985 and did literacy with the Hote-Malei language group in Morobe Province until 2005. She is currently working with the Nek language, also in Morobe Province of PNG. She has also conducted literacy workshops in various other parts of the country.



Kathy (left) with a flagbook