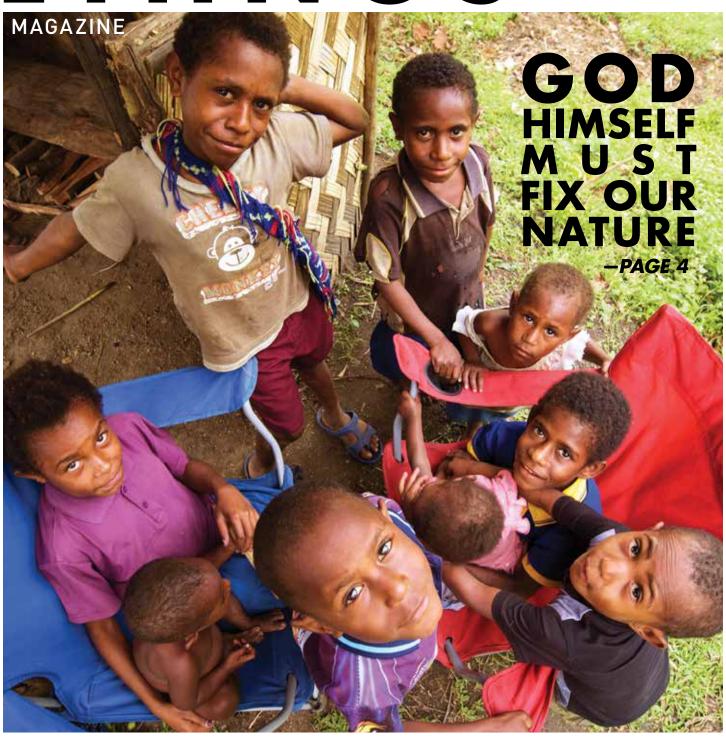
A THRIVING CHURCH FOR EVERY PEOPLE

ETHNOS



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Cover photo by Joseph Osborn

Dear Friend,

I'm going to say something that you won't hear many missionaries say...

I want you to close your Bible.

Now without peeking, what are the first recorded words of God? Do you remember? It's "Let there be light." (Genesis 1:3)

In this incredibly profound moment in our universe's history we see the word of God bringing forth physical light.

See, God is in the business of creating light.

And now, thousands of years later God continues to speak light into the minds of men (and women) through His Word, the Bible.

And that's what we celebrate in this issue of *Ethnos*Magazine—people groups (some of them for the first time in the history of their culture) coming from darkness to light!

What an incredible opportunity we have to partner with the creator God of the universe.

Come celebrate with us the faithfulness of God—to the Menya, Mibu and Hewa peoples of Papua New Guinea. Praise God for His faithfulness to the Nahuatl people of Mexico. Let us praise Him for the progress on the Bible translation for the Dinangat people of Papua New Guinea and for the baptisms among the Iski people of Papua New Guinea.

Praise God for His mighty work among the *ethnos*!

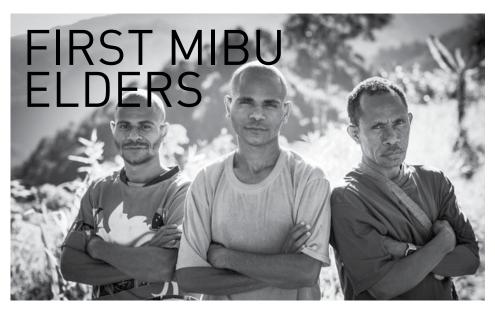
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Tim Whatley Ethnos Canada

Executive Director



NEWS AROUND THE WORLD



The first three elders were appointed for the Mibu Church in Papua New Guinea in June. This was the joyous culmination of over 16 years of ministry that started in this unreached people group with no written language, that now has an alphabet, a very active literacy program and Bible lessons from Creation through Christ. They also have some Old Testament Scripture

translated as well as much of the New Testament. There are currently 10 local churches spread throughout the area covering two language groups.

In July, the missionaries moved out of the area. The three elders that were appointed that weekend in June will continue to lead and disciple future leaders and confirm elders for the remaining churches. That was a celebration of what God has done up to this point among the Mibu people, but it was also a step forward as the believers begin to function without the missionaries' full-time presence. The missionaries will continue to serve the church full-time by finishing the translation project, writing lessons and making regular short-term visits to the Mibu.

HEART LANGUAGE MINISTRIES

Ethnos' goal is to see a thriving church for every people—a good goal. But what has to take place for those churches to become *thriving* and not just *surviving*?

One way is to make sure that our ministries are indeed heart language



ones—where we speak to the people's hearts in a language that truly expresses their culture, their worldview, their emotions, their uniqueness.

Andi McMartin, one of our culture and language acquisition consultants, said, "Heart language ministry is important because ministry is about relationships. When a message is communicated to us in our heart language, then we know that the message is for us. We want the people we work with to know that as well: God's message is for them. He cares for them enough to bring His truth to them in a way that they can understand best."

Jerry and Joyce McDaniels, Ethnos' international literacy coordinators, said, "It's impossible to have a deep, vibrant human relationship with someone with whom you cannot communicate nor hear their heart because they speak a different language. People need to know that God speaks their language and that He desires a close, personal relationship with them. Literacy gives people full access to God's Word."

That is the reason that missionaries spend hours, days and years learning another culture and language:
Ministry is to the heart, not simply the head.



FIRST BAPTISM FOR THE ISKI CHURCH

André and Aurélie Tousch write about the first baptism among the Iski church in Papua New Guinea: "A little more than a year ago, our dear Iski friends knew nothing about the meaning of the Bible. They lived in constant fear of death and of the spirits. A year ago they heard the gospel and many of them believed. Since then they have grown in their understanding of what Jesus has done for them, and [in late May] we had baptisms for the first time. Eighty-three people gave a testimony in front of the whole village who had gathered for the occasion."



NEW HEWA ELDERS

A sign of the growing maturity of the Hewa church in the rugged mountains of the Central Range of Papua New Guinea is the ordination of their first six elders. These six are Fato, Faimpat, Yanis, Ken, Kifeson and Waina. Nine others are being prepared to take on the role of deacons. Pray for Jonathan and Susan Kopf and John and Jessi George as they disciple these men as well and continue the translation of Scripture into the Hewa language.



WANA OUTREACH

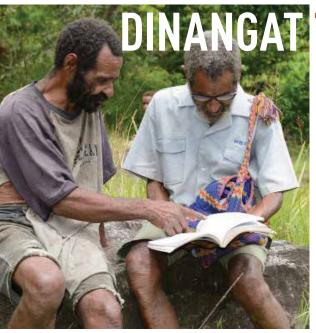
After watching the Wana church in the Asia-Pacific region mature and grow, the missionary team is now seeing the Wana believers take on the Great Commission. The church has sent out three teams to reach three other groups: the Banggai and the Da'a, with the third group, the Lauje, needing help with their literacy program. This means the Wana had to go through all the struggles of culture and language acquisition just like the expatriate missionaries did in order to begin writing chronological Bible lessons and working on translations.



FIRST FOR THE NAHUATL CHURCH

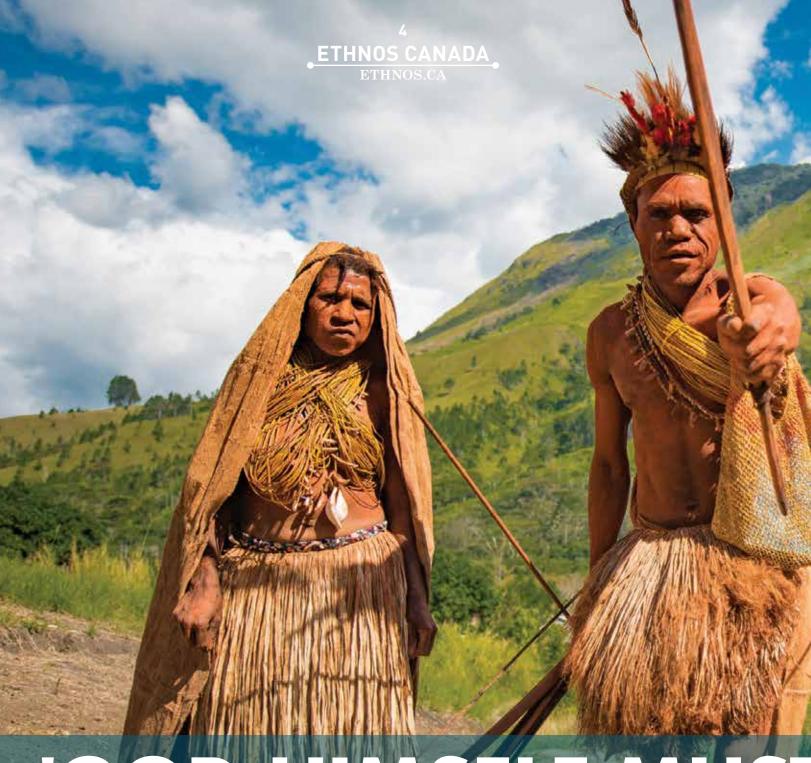
Since finishing foundational Bible teaching among the Nahuatl, some ladies have trusted in Christ. These women, making up the first Nahuatl church, have joined with the missionary team and two Spanish-speaking believers, Milo and Agustina, to worship God together. It has been so exciting to see the many "firsts" of the Nahuatl church, such as:

- the women being bold to pray out loud in front of the others.
- the believers singing praises to God in a culture where people don't sing unless they are drunk.
- their concern for their unbelieving family members and others in the community.
- the believers inviting their family members to come hear God's Word.
- the believers showing their faith in God by not going to the witchdoctor with others from their family.



DINANGAT TRANSLATION

The translation of the Dinangat New Testament is progressing in Papua New Guinea. The book of Revelation is done and ready to get checked. Also the first draft of 2 Corinthians is done, but this still needs to be checked with several Dinangat people, which will take another few months. Ralf Schlegel has started to translate Hebrews, while Jeremiah Markley is finishing up the book of Matthew while drafting the book of Luke. This is definitely a long and hard process, but the team is encouraged that they are moving forward bit by bit. Please keep praying for wisdom for this enormous task of translating God's Word.



GOD HIMSELF MUST

Though the clouds hung like a heavy blanket over the mountain valley that morning, hope was alive in the hearts of the missionaries. This wasn't some random hope set on temporal things, like the changing of the weather.

Their hope was set on the Lord of the harvest, knowing that His light could pierce through the gloom that kept the Menya people in darkness.

For too long, a fog of misunderstanding,

false doctrine and belief in any other god than the one true God had hung over the hearts of the Menya people. But over these past weeks, as the missionaries taught foundational, chronological Bible lessons, they saw the haze blocking the true light of the gospel beginning to dissipate.

Today was the day. In the sixth week of teaching, they had come to the Cross. They were going to present

the significance of Jesus' death, burial and glorious resurrection. Today they anticipated presenting truth with crystal clarity in that small village in Papua New Guinea. They anticipated the birth of the Menyan church.

AFTER YEARS OF PREPARATION

This day had been a long time coming. It was preceded by years of preparation. The two missionary



FIX OUR NATURE.'

couples, Wes and Penny Chappell and Joseph and Elizabeth Osborn, persevered through the joys and trials that come with culture and language acquisition. They created a literacy program and taught the people to read and write. They diligently translated Scripture portions into the Menya language. And they spent months poring over the wording of the foundational,

chronological Bible lessons they were now using. They wanted to get it right. They wanted it to communicate God's message to the Menyan people clearly in their own vernacular, in their heart language.

THE TEACHING BEGAN

And finally, the day had come. The Menya people were arriving at the meeting hall. They knew answers were forthcoming—and some were pretty sure they'd already figured it out.

Among the "some" were Francis and Rita. Joseph remembered an earlier conversation with this couple.

"Before, we had not heard God's message. We didn't think about God," Francis had told him. "We thought, 'There is no God.' God doesn't exist.... We were not fearing God. We were following our own

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desires. Now, you have come. You and Wes have come. You are teaching us. Now we know that God exists, and we fear Him."

Francis had told him the Creation story scene by scene. He told Joseph how God created Adam and Eve and placed them in the Garden of Eden, but then Adam and Eve chose to listen to Satan's lie and sin entered the world.

Then Francis said, "Because of this [Adam and Eve's sin], they corrupted our nature. We're done. Now we don't live rightly. Their corrupted nature is still in us. If we do religious acts or anything else, we don't become righteous. The reason is that they have already corrupted our very nature."

There was no doubt that he saw the correlation between their sin and his sin. There was no doubt he recognized its impact on his life. And he wasn't alone in his understanding. His wife, Rita, was tracking with the lessons equally well.

"My lifestyle is just like what Adam and Eve did," Rita said. "God is not pleased. ... We can't escape this—our nature. We still have it. Their sinfulness remains with us. We can't escape it."

But even then, finding themselves helpless in their

sin, it was clear that they knew that hope was coming.

Joseph remembered asking them, "Can we fix this corrupted nature that we have?"

And he loved Rita's response: "God Himself must fix our nature. Only He can do it."

THE FOUNDATION WAS LAID

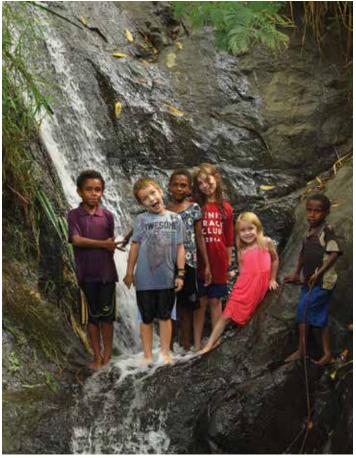
The foundation had been laid. And today was the day. As people arrived for the lesson, the missionary couples mingled among them, greeting them and asking that each one take the time to fill out a "Certificate of Death" and to take it in to the meeting with them.

They asked each person: "Are you a descendant of Adam?"

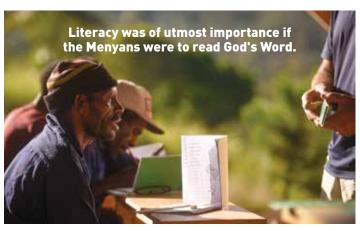
The consensus was "of course!" They had sat in on all the lessons. They had heard that God created the world, that God created Adam and Eve. They *knew* we are all descendants of Adam and Eve.

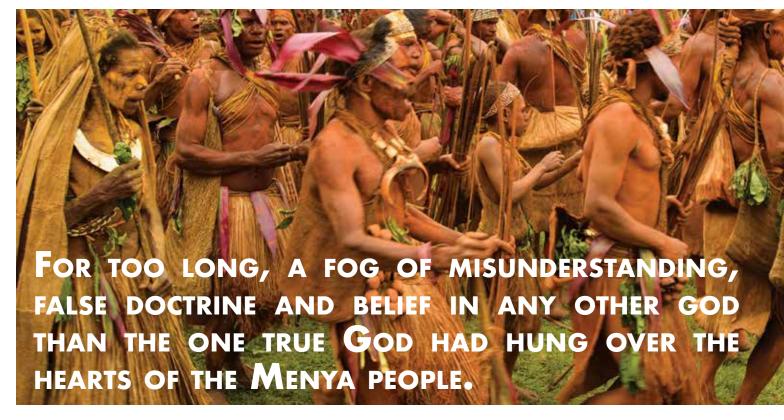
They asked each person: "Do you sin?"

The response was an overwhelming "yes." Had not sin begun with Adam and Eve? Were the Menyans not descendants of Adam and Eve? And wasn't it so clear that their lives













failed to live up to God's standards as presented throughout Scripture? There was no doubt in their mind that they were sinners.

As the Menyans responded affirmatively to both questions, affirming their guilt, it followed that a judgment had to be given. For their sentence, the missionaries checked the box for death on their certificates. Then they told them to hold onto their certificate while they listened to the Bible lesson that day.

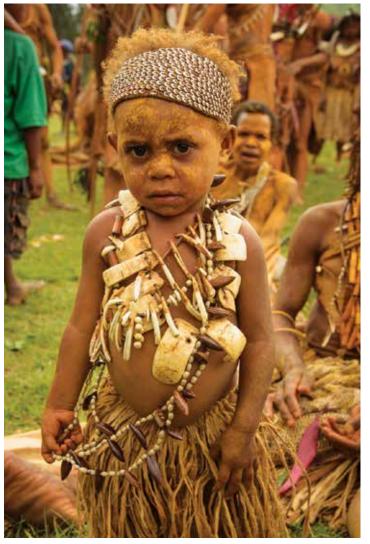
And then the teaching began. Men and women filled the meeting hall, their children sitting next to them or sprawled across their laps as Wes and Joseph taught them.

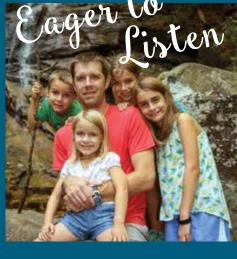
SPIRITUAL EYES ARE OPENED

As Wes explained what Jesus had accomplished on the cross, how He took the punishment for sin that they deserved, tears welled up in the eyes









Before we moved into the Menya [people group], we were warned that their language was one of the dreaded "Angan" languages, regarded as among the most difficult to learn. Over the years of learning, it was common for the locals to say, "You'll never learn our language." During that time, they repeatedly questioned our motives and our purpose, regardless of how many times we tried to explain. It wasn't until we started teaching God's Word that they began to understand.

During the weeks of lessons, some of the same people who had previously derided us said, "We need to apologize to you. We have been saying you guys are lazy and haven't being doing anything the whole time you have been living among us. But now we understand what you have been doing. Now we understand why you are here, and we are eager to hear the rest of God's Word."

As we got closer and closer to the end of our lessons, when we would explain how God has solved our sin-problem, it wasn't just the Menyan people's anticipation that was growing. Our team was incredibly excited to see God's work bear fruit. And as God's truth broke through the traditional beliefs, it was thrilling to see the results. Understanding God's grace for the first time, many of our friends rejoiced in His goodness—and so did we.

of some of the listeners. And then, as Wes read Colossians 2:13-14, things became clear.

"When you were dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our sins, having cancelled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us: and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross."

Jesus had cancelled out the certificate of debt and death against them. And it was by faith alone in Jesus' finished work on the cross that they could be saved.

A Month Later

We have been meeting with the new believers for one month now! What a privilege to be here and see some of our neighbours place their faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ. Their excitement and hunger is contagious.

It is so fun to hear the new Christians share their new-found faith in Christ with their relatives and others who did not hear the seven weeks of the Creation through Christ teaching. They are so much more eloquent than we outsiders are.

Thanks for praying. Please continue to pray for boldness and strength for them as some are already experiencing pressure from certain 'religious' groups. God is faithful, He will build His church.

By Wer Chappell

10 ETHNOS CANADA ETHNOS.CA





"If you are believing that Jesus has paid your debt, you can show that when we are done by sticking your 'Certificate of Death' to the cross," Joseph told them, motioning to the rough-hewn wooden cross that leaned against the wall at the front of the meeting hall.

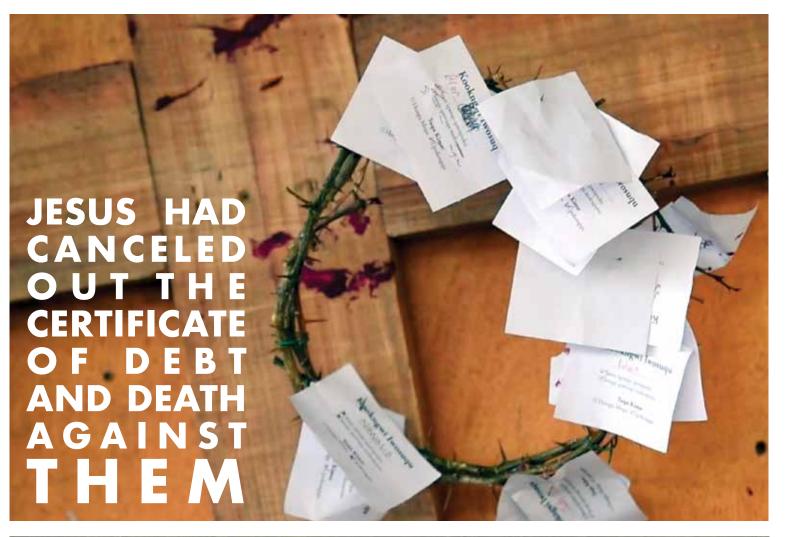
Wes started to bring the lesson to its conclusion, but Rita wasn't going to wait any longer. This was the Good News she had been waiting to hear. While Wes was still talking, with a purposeful stride, Rita headed straight for the cross. She didn't need to be told twice. She pushed her "Certificate of Death" over the

protruding nail. God had cancelled her debt, and she knew she was alive with Him.

And others followed. A steady stream of Menyans followed after Rita, sticking their "Certificates of Death" to the cross.

Yes, a milestone really did take place that day. A church was birthed among the Menya people.

-Rosie Cochran, Managing Editor







Born in Wales and raised in Canada, Rosie Cochran and her late husband served for many years in a rustic tribal village — and felt privileged to do so. Now God has given her the privilege to communicate the vision and reality of missions around the world, of what it means and takes to see to a thriving church for every people. Rosie is grateful for her sending church, Second Baptist Church of Auburn, New York, who has stood with her all these years.



12 ETHNOS CANADA ETHNOS.CA

Partners, like the Reffners, are making a difference among the Menyan people through their prayers. Read what they wrote to the Osborns.

Dear Joseph and Elizabeth,

We have been so encouraged (even overwhelmed) to see God move so powerfully among the Menyan people. We are excited to see how God answers prayer. I thought it would be an encouragement to you to hear how this has impacted our family.

On the day you held the first teaching, we began to pray as a family. I printed out each of the profile pics with captions and placed them facedown in a basket on our kitchen table. I explained to the kids that after dinner we would take one profile, read it, pass it around, and then each pray specifically for that person.

There really are very few rules. Take a profile, read it, say what you want to pray, then pray. Truthfully, I thought we would get a lot of generic prayers like "I pray that Francis would get saved." But that really has not been the case. Most of the time it is something like "I pray that Francis would continue to be a strong leader and would lead the young men to God." Or as one of them prayed tonight, "I pray that Rita would be able to learn to read the language so that she could read God's Word." And they don't like copying each other. So we end up praying different things for the same person.

It's been really great to have an opportunity to pray as a family each night. Getting them to learn how to pray specifically started as our main goal but how they are praying has surpassed what we anticipated. And the fact that they aren't losing steam is encouraging. I get yelled at by the kids when we miss a night.

Erica and I love reading the posts. When we read that Francis was reiterating the story to the young men after your teaching, it clicked. We need to share this with you. That is an answer to one of our prayers! We are praying here and seeing the impact in your posts.

Sincerely,

The Refficers

Join the Reffners in praying for the Menya people.



GABBY



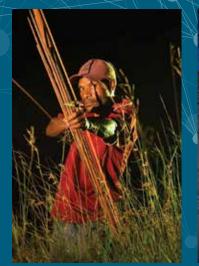
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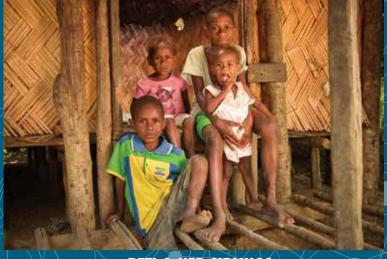




ROMAN & KATY RITA TONI







RICKY TERRY BETI & HER SIBLINGS

Praise! GOD MOVES THROUGH PERSECUTION



"Brother, they have driven us out of our home in [our] village, but we are not worried about this hardship," Tokiung called from Papua New Guinea to tell Aaron and Lori Luse, who had brought the gospel message to his village. Though it hasn't been easy, his attitude is an inspiration and challenge.

"Instead we are thinking about the book of Acts when the persecution came on the church and helped the Good News go out. We have talked with the church, and our family is going up to [the village on the mountain] to tell them clearly about literacy and God's Word."

In the midst of the persecution, Tokiung knew the time was now. For years the inhabitants of the mountain village had been asking for missionaries, but obligations as one of the few Patpatar Bible teachers in their fledgling church prevented his going. But not *now*. Praise God with us that Tokiung and his family are reaching out to this mountain village with the gospel message.

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• EXPERIENCE the challenges of ministering in a foreign culture.

DISCOVER the team necessary to reach isolated people groups.

#BIBLELESS

Is it fair? Why do we have over 500 translations of the English Bible and yet millions don't have a single verse? What if every person had access to God's Word? What if you translated the very last Bible? When will they hear? Why? Will you go? Who will go? How can they call on God without access to God's Word? What if? Is it even possible? What's stopping you? Has God called you? Who is called? How do we know? When will they hear? What is your favourite verse? What if you had to learn another language to be able to read the Bible? Can you imagine your life without a single Bible verse? What if every people group had access to the Bible? Does it even matter? Why should I go? What if I'm not called? Who's responsibility is it? Am I responsible? Am I qualified? What if I fail? Who will take them God's Word? So what if they don't have

God's Word? Who cares? Should I care? How does it effect me? Does God hold us accountable? What if I can't? Who are unreached people groups? What can I do? Can my life really make a difference for eternity? What if you gave your life to translating God's Word? Who's life might you impact? How can they grow in Christ without access to His Word?

pursue the answer to your question **GO.ETHNOS.CA/TRANSLATE**



Can you imagine what it's like for someone to read God's Word in their language for the first time? **YOU CAN MAKE THAT HAPPEN TODAY**.

In 1959—back when this organization was called New Tribes Mission and the home office was in Woodworth, Wisconsin—we printed our first New Testament translation.

Our two most recent New Testament translations were completed just last year, finalized at Ethnos360's USA home office in Sanford, Florida.

Those two number among 87 New Testaments completed by missionaries sent out by Ethnos Canada, and our partner organizations.

And when we say "our," we mean "yours" as well. **PARTNERS LIKE YOU ARE KEY** both in heartlanguage ministry and in establishing thriving churches by generously funding New Testament translations from the start.

MORE OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND.

Ethnos teams are at work on 120 more New Testaments. **EACH WILL COST ABOUT \$277,000, OR \$35 A VERSE.** This covers the costs involved in translating the Scriptures and the accompanying Bible lessons, as well as the costs of producing a literacy course so that people can read and understand God's Word.

At that price, you can put God's Word into print in another people group's heart language today. Maybe you can sponsor a verse or two or ten. Perhaps you could choose a chapter or even a book to sponsor. Find out more here:

ethnos.ca/projects/translation

If you want to get behind a more specific translation project, check out the possibilities on our Translate page at **go.ethnos.ca/translate**.



Jeremy and Kimberly Wardlaw Cecilia

Ministry in Country:

Going as church planters to West Africa **Sending Church:**

Bayfair Baptist Church, Pickering, ON

Jeremy and Kimberly Wardlaw graduated from Emanate, Ethnos Canada's missionary training program, in 2017. They are currently trusting for God's provision as they prepare to go as church planters to West Africa in 2019.

Both Jeremy and Kim became interested in missions from a young age. Jeremy was aware of unreached people groups growing up in Brazil where his parents were missionaries to an unreached people group. Even as a child, it was clear that someone had to share the gospel with those who

had never yet had the opportunity to hear. As a teenager, he was challenged through God's Word to share his faith more boldly, and, ultimately, obeying Jesus' command to go and make disciples of all nations became his ambition.

Kimberly was raised in Oregon and grew up reading missionary biographies that challenged her to serve in missions. When she graduated high school, she participated in a yearlong discipleship program in Mexico where she learned for the first time about unreached people groups. She was shocked to discover these millions of unreached still existed 2,000 years after Christ had died on the cross and felt the burden to go. She and Jeremy met at the Ethnos360 Bible Institute in Michigan where they began their training.

They plan to move to Senegal, West Africa next year along with their currently 6-month-old daughter Cecilia. The Lord has taught Jeremy and Kim so much during their years training with Ethnos Canada, and they trust that He will continue teaching them as they walk with Him.

Connect with Jeremy and Kimberly: ethnos.ca/jeremy-and-kimberly-wardlaw/



Establishing Thriving Churches Among the Indigenous Peoples in Canada

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CONNECT WITH

Rick and Muriel Oickle Anna-Lee, Jenna-Mae

Ministry in Country: Culture and Language Acquisition Consultant Coordinator, Senegal Sending Church: Parkdale Baptist Church, Belleville, ON; Osgoode Bible Chapel, Osgoode, ON

Rick was challenged into missions at Osgoode Bible Chapel, in the village of Osgoode, Ontario. Here, he attended a children's club and heard the gospel. The need of missions was so clear to him that even before salvation, he felt that to be saved would mean being a missionary.

Muriel was raised near the small town of Sawyerville in Quebec where she attended Sawyerville Baptist Church. At a young age she would accept God's call on her to mission work. After training and working as a nurse, she entered Ethnos Canada's training program for missions. This led to joining a team working in Côte d'Ivoire among the Komono people.

She met Rick on her first home



assignment and after their marriage in 1993, they continued the work with the Komono people together. Their daughters, Anna-Lee and Jenna-Mae were adopted in the period they were with the Komono.

As a linguist, Muriel created an alphabet for the language and started a literacy program in preparation for teaching God's Word. The team witnessed several people come to faith as God's plan of redemption was understood.

A war during this time brought about changes in ministry. One year

and a half was spent helping at the Ethnos Canada training program. From there, they moved to Senegal, so Rick could take the role of Regional Culture and Language Acquisition Consultant Coordinator for the Africa Region. Muriel became involved in the orientation program for newly arrived missionaries. Through this time, the Lord has shown himself faithful and able to continue the work He started.

Connect with Rick and Muriel: ethnos.ca/rick-and-muriel-oickle/

Pray now. A LACK OF LABOURERS

For many years Lourens and Marie Laureti, who work among the Mengen people of Papua New Guinea, have been praying for a neighbouring Mengen village. And now they are seeing God stir up a hunger in that village.

"[The villagers] have been travelling down to our village regularly with requests for teachers to come and teach them," wrote the Lauretis. "They even started to build a teaching house and [other] houses for potential teachers as well as making gardens."

But Lourens and Marie share a sad truth: "We are not sure how and when we will be able to teach them, as we do not have enough labourers."

And that's hard. Lourens admits that "this has been draining for me and is heartbreaking!"

Pray for more labourers. Pray for hearts challenged to the work of missions. And pray for those currently being trained at the missionary training centres, that they would stay the course. *Check out: e360bible.org and emanatetraining.ca*





IMPACT THE WORLD FOR CHRIST USING YOUR CAREER SKILLS!

Most people think of missions in terms of Bible translation, Bible teaching and literacy. But did you know that you can help reach the unreached by using the career skills you already have?

Opportunities are available today in:

.....

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☐ Helicopter Pilot	☐ Elementary Principal	☐ Food Service Coordinator
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□ Academic Administrator □ Athletic Director □ Boarding Home Parents	☐ Estate Planning Director☐ Payroll Administrator☐	□ Software Developer □ Telephone Technician □ Web Developer



What's the darkest place you've ever been in? For pilot Jeremiah Diedrich, it's the southern edge of the western Amazon region of Brazil. "It's the deepest,

darkest, hardest-toreach place in that whole big jungle," he says. And he should know. For years,

The teams without access to aviation struggle to sustain vital long-term ministry.

flying a Cessna 206 airplane, he provided support to teams reaching isolated people groups in the region, but only three out of 10 are still accessible by plane.

Increasingly, airstrips have become impossible to build and register. The teams without access to aviation struggle to sustain vital long-term ministry. Exhausting land and river travel seriously hampers communication, supply runs and crucial visits with leaders and consultants.

A helicopter is the answer to this problem as it does

not require an airstrip, only a small clearing on which to land. It will provide a refreshingly viable network to

sustain ministry teams by providing transportation to their ministry locations. As of August 1, \$404,464 of the needed \$1,799,125 has already been raised toward the purchase of a Robinson R66 helicopter for Brazil. Pray for the remaining funds.

See the project at: go.ethnos.ca/brazil-r66



Celebrate every step We should praise God with each gain in the long process

of establishing a thriving church.

Did you ever watch the television show The Biggest Loser?

The show lasted for seventeen seasons, and most people would probably say it was about weight loss.

But the trainers, nutritionists, doctors and others associated with the show would probably have told you it was really about healthy lifestyles, of which weight loss is just part.

You know, I feel like those trainers, nutritionists and doctors as I look at this issue of the magazine.

Starting on page 4, we're making a big deal about the Menya people hearing a clear presentation of the gospel in their own language and responding.

And over in the News section, on page 2, are two brief articles. One is about elders being ordained in the Mibu church; the other is about new elders for the Hewa church.

I almost want to shout, "This is what it's all about! A thriving church for every people!" I want to point us to the Bible and God's command to His people to make disciples of all nations in Matthew 28:19. I want to sweep

through the book of Acts and demonstrate how the early church carried that command forward: By establishing churches in places that had yet to be reached.

Isn't the fact that these two churches have elders more important? Are we missing the point by focusing on the Menya people hearing the gospel?

Not really.

The folks who produced *The Biggest Loser* didn't just keep the end—a healthy lifestyle—in

sight. They celebrated every victory on the road there.

And so should we.







