

Church Planting in Canada Moving Forward

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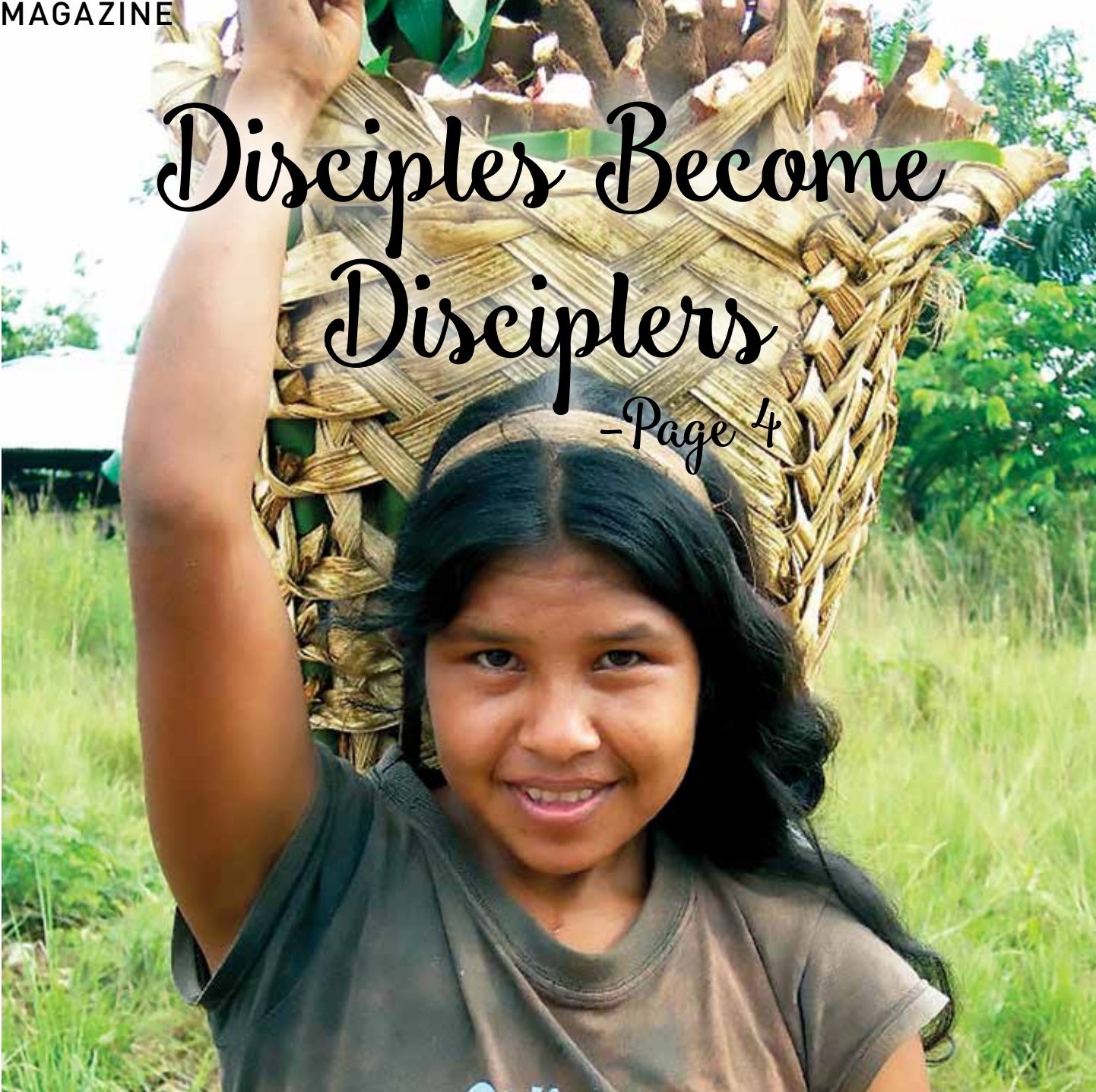
God's Word is vital to the Church

—Page 20

A THRIVING CHURCH FOR EVERY PEOPLE

# ETHNOS

MAGAZINE



*Disciples Become  
Disciplers*  
—Page 4

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# FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Dear Friend,

My wife and I were privileged to be a part of a team that was sent to plant a church among the Moi people deep in the jungles of Indonesia. As much as we were thrilled at the prospect, we were also incredibly intimidated.

How do you move in with a people that have no concept of a caring God and hope to see a thriving church established?

Our Lord has led Ethnos Canada and our partners around the world to a clear vision of what a thriving church looks like. I am so thankful for our church planting consultants, who were there to help us in the Moi. They guided us with a model laid out in the New Testament, examining the health and vitality of a church from four different perspectives:

- God's Word for the Church
- The Life of the Church
- Discipleship in the Church
- Identity of the Church

Rather than my going back over 18 years of ministry and sharing what God did among the Moi, can we show how this is unfolding today amongst the Guahibo people of Bolivia? Turn to page four and be thrilled as you see what God is doing through His Church.

Blessed to serve together,

Tim Whatley  
Ethnos Canada  
Executive Director

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## ETHNOS magazine

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Cover photo by Alberto González



# NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

## LITERACY UPDATE

Literacy is an important part of establishing a thriving church for every people. For example, literacy was a key “to growth in the Mouk church,” Gloria Zook recalls, because “they could sit and read and feed themselves spiritually.” Literacy was so important to the work that each time evangelistic teaching started in a new village, the missionaries sent in a literacy teacher and trainee along with the two Bible teachers and their families.

One recent innovation in literacy materials development is a software program called Literacy Starter. Literacy Starter began as a dream list written up by Jerry and Joyce McDaniels, Ethnos360 International Literacy Coordinators, along with others involved with literacy. It was everything they wished a computer program could do for them in creating literacy primers.



*Joyce, Jerry and Rand*

Then Rand Burgett, a programmer with Ethnos360, said, “Let’s start talking about this literacy program you want.” They did more than talk: the dream became a reality.

“The program is more than we ever thought it could be,” said Jerry. After the church planting teams invest months entering data into Literacy Starter, “within three weeks with three teams at the same time, we can have all five primers and all the

readers done. ... Literacy Starter saves probably a year and a half of painstaking labour to get the primers done.”

Originally Literacy Starter was only usable by English speakers. Thanks to Rand Burgett’s son Ryan and willing translators, the software will soon be made available to literacy teachers and trainers whose heart language is French, Indonesian, Portuguese or Spanish.



## PRINTING REVISED AYORÉ BIBLE PORTIONS

The Ayoré New Testament was printed 35 years ago in a dual-language version (Ayoré/Spanish). It was recently revised and updated to reflect current, clearer Biblical terminology now used in the Ayoré language. Half the books of the Old Testament have been translated and will be included. The Spanish will be removed as it is no longer needed alongside the Ayoré Scripture.

Fifteen Ayoré villages in Bolivia and five villages in Paraguay are waiting for the updated version with current biblical terminology and half of the Old Testament. Using this updated biblical terminology will provide the Ayoré people with clarity and deeper understanding of God’s Word and will strengthen them in their outreach into yet unreached Ayoré villages in both countries.

Find the Ayoré Bible project and other translation projects at:

[go.ethnos.ca/translate](http://go.ethnos.ca/translate)



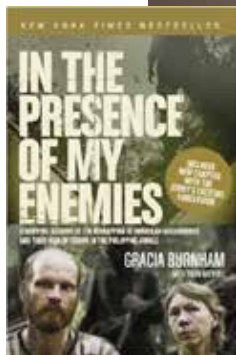
## NTM AVIATION LANDS A NEW NAME

NTM Aviation is changing its name to Ethnos360 Aviation.

With the tools and personnel He has provided, God is equipping Ethnos360 Aviation to serve more than ever. As the *ethnos* in our new name shows, we continue to facilitate outreach to all nations. As thriving churches are established, we provide flight service to those who are now reaching their own people and new groups, too.

Our goal is the same as when we were NTM Aviation: to provide flight service to church planting teams wherever and whenever they need it at a cost that they can afford. We harness the power of aviation to make planting thriving churches possible in the most remote locations of all 360 degrees of the globe.

From a Piper Pacer landing on an airstrip cut out of a cornfield in 1969 to Kodiaks and helicopters today, God is using Ethnos360 Aviation to facilitate the work of church planting. By God's strength and provision, we stand ready to serve His servants.



## KIDNAPPED BY TERRORISTS!

Come hear Gracia Burnham share her story of faith in the midst of terror and tragedy.

Watch for an event near you:

[go.ethnos.ca/gracia](http://go.ethnos.ca/gracia)



## KALANGUYA BIBLE PRINTING

More than 50,000 Kalanguya people with their own distinct language and culture live in mountain villages of the Philippines. Among them are 30 churches in various stages of growth and development.

The entire Bible has been translated into the Kalanguya language and will be ready for printing by the summer of 2018. Also ready for printing in the fall will be a new songbook, teaching helps and commentaries to benefit both the pastors and those actively engaged in outreach ministries in remote Kalanguya villages.

Find the Kalanguya Bible project and other Bible translation projects at: [go.ethnos.ca/translate](http://go.ethnos.ca/translate)



## MENGEN NEW TESTAMENT UPDATE

The days, months and years have piled up as Canadian Rebecca Preheim and the translation team worked on the Mengen translation of the New Testament. About one year ago, Rebecca was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, something that could have sidelined her—but did not. In referring to the project, she said, “I guess it has been a bit like childbirth ... very painful with many tears and stress and certainly very difficult, but the end result will be amazing!”

*[Note: After this was written, Rebecca had to leave Papua New Guinea the end of January due to her MS being aggravated by the work. The translation will continue but the final check will be delayed possibly one year.]*



## MISSIONARY TRAINING PROGRAM OUTGROWS CLASSROOM AND OFFICES

Ethnos Canada is preparing to break ground on a new classroom and office building for *Emanate*, its missionary training program.

Enrollment in our missionary training program continues to be short on space. We are looking to expand the campus where we equip families God is calling into cross-cultural church planting ministries.

Plans are being drawn up and, Lord willing, we will break ground later this year.

Learn more at:

[go.ethnos.ca/emanate-centre](http://go.ethnos.ca/emanate-centre)

# DISCIPLESHIP

## THE VISION

Lack of rain reduced the dirt streets to nothing more than a dust bowl. But the residents of the small town in the lowlands of northwestern Colombia were used to it. Soon the rains would come, and the dust would be no more. But on this day, the small group walking the streets in their Sunday best would have to put up with the breeze picking up the dust, sullyng their once clean shoes long before they reached their destination, a nondescript church on the edge of the town. A nondescript church with a big heart for the unsaved Guahibo people group in their region.

Over the years, this big-hearted body of believers made numerous attempts to share the gospel message with the Guahibos, but linguistic and cultural barriers rendered the outreaches ineffective. Their efforts seemed to amount to little more than dust in the wind. There one day and gone the next.

Meanwhile, across the country, God was working in the hearts of Guahibo believers José Arturo and his wife, Janet. Already they had served the Lord faithfully for more than 15 years in their home village and in nearby villages. They taught, disciplined and trained new leaders who were now teaching in other villages. They, the disciples, had become disciplers. And now, after years of ministering in their Jerusalem, God was putting in their hearts the desire to go and share the gospel far from their home area.

“In our devotional times, when we read in the Word that there were Christians going to other parts by God’s command to teach His Word, this was causing an unrest in my heart and my wife’s,” José said. “We prayed to the Lord: ‘Show us your will; we want to go. How can we participate?’”

It was during a survey trip to the lowlands in northeastern Colombia that both parties watched as God pulled it all together. The Guahibo missionary team, which by now included José and Janet, connected with the Colombian church. The pastor of the church told them, “We have been praying for a number of years that God would

# DOWN

# WELL

P  
E  
T



Photo by Alberto González

send people who are equipped to teach God's Word in [the Guahibos'] own language."

Imagine José and Janet's joy at hearing those words! José said, "In these days of making this survey trip to check out the possibility of teaching and planting a church, I see that God answered our prayers."

What's more exciting than to watch God bringing a partnership together and to hear how José and Janet are working at the edge of the Colombian church to reach a group of still unreached Guahibos with the good news of the gospel? But this isn't the end of the story. Nor is it the beginning.

These were neither the first actors in the story, nor will they be the last.

### WHERE THE STORY BEGAN

This story began many years before, back in the late 1950s. Sophie Muller, a blue-eyed, single woman with a background in journalism and art, travelled the rivers and jungles, spending several days each month in each village.

There were no planes. There were no hotels. No restaurants.

Travel meant sitting on the rough wooden bench of a dugout canoe for days on end, sometimes under the hot tropical sun and other times

enduring torrential downpours. At times travel by river was followed by a trek through the dense jungle.

Sleeping arrangements were a hammock hung under palm-roofed huts alongside the villagers. A mosquito net gave reprieve from mosquitos as well as keeping cockroaches and larger creatures at bay.

Food consisted of whatever the people were eating that day—and that could be anything from smoked fish to tasty wild boar to palm grubs or chicken foot soup. And if meat was unavailable, cassava bread was the staple.

Beyond the mere inconveniences, there was real danger. At one village, the witch doctor cooked up a chicken stew for Sophie with a little something extra added. The villagers watched as the unsuspecting Sophie ate the soup laced with the most potent poison known in the jungle, a poison known to kill a person within five minutes.

The villagers watched and waited for the inevitable — but it didn't happen. Though Sophie experienced some vomiting, she did not die. And that didn't make sense. Could the witch doctor have failed? Hadn't the witch

doctor added enough poison to kill five men? Or could the poison be flawed?

If any questions were raised about the potency of the poison, they were soon dispelled when some of the village dogs found Sophie's vomit and did what dogs do, after which they promptly fell over and died.

God's protective power was evident, and the witch doctor who had prepared the soup turned from witchcraft to God. Sophie became known as a daughter of God and



*Right: Sophie Mueller teaching*

*Left: José Arturo, Janet and family*



Photo by Joyce Cain





THE VILLAGERS  
WATCHED AS THE  
UNSUSPECTING  
SOPHIE ATE THE  
SOUP LACED WITH  
THE MOST POTENT  
POISON KNOWN IN  
THE JUNGLE.



was allowed to travel safely in the jungle wherever she wanted.

God used this woman to pave the way for others to follow.

And more followed.

### RECEIVED WITH OPEN ARMS

“By the time we came to work with the Guahibo tribe in October of 1976, there were four different missionaries working with them,” Mark and Joyce Cain told me. “At that time there were around 25 to 30 thousand Guahibos. Today there are around 40 thousand.”

From the jungle-lined rivers of Venezuela to the plains of both Colombia and Venezuela, the Guahibos are scattered over a large section of two countries, a section equivalent to the size of Pennsylvania.

But the Cains recognize that they might not have been received with open arms if it hadn't been for Sophie Mueller.

“Sophie opened the way for us to go in there and reach [the Guahibos],” Joyce told me. “We were accepted as a team into the tribe because of Sophie's stamp of approval.”

And they didn't waste any time. Mark and Joyce moved in among the Guahibos, building relationships with the people and learning their culture and language. Then they began to teach from God's Word and nurtured a small church in the Guahibo village of Raya.

“We had visions of accompanying the believers of the village where we were working and going out to reach other villages,” Mark said.

And what would be wrong with a plan like that? Nothing.

But then in the guerrillas came, intent on kidnapping Mark and Joyce.

“We fled,” Joyce said, “leaving a small church wondering what God was up to.” Granted, Mark and Joyce wondered as well.

### WHEN “PLAN A” UNRAVELS

I'm sure there's been some time in your life when you've wondered what God was up to, right? A time when



*Mark and Joyce Cain with baby Brad after stepping off the airplane in Bogotá, Colombia*

Plan A—which seemed like a godly and good plan—began unravelling before your eyes. A time when you’ve been faced with what appeared to be — humanly speaking, at least — a less-than-ideal alternative.

I’ve been there. Done that.

And obviously, so have Mark and Joyce. They know all about that. They know about less-than-ideal circumstances. They know about Plan A unravelling—and Plans B and C.

“I think we might have gotten down to Plan G,” Joyce told me.

They had a Plan A. It was solid. It followed the traditional missionary approach. It should have worked. And in a way it did—until it didn’t.

Getting chased out by guerrillas can put a damper on your plans and aspirations. That’s how it felt as the Cains watched Plan A evaporate, not knowing when they would see their precious Guahibo brothers and sisters in Christ again.

If they’d known it would be a year before they would be able to go back to the village, it might have been even harder. Sometimes it’s better not to know. And the civil unrest?

That would continue until 1994.

But there was a silver lining to the tragic turn of events. Mark and Joyce already had mastered the language. They already studied the culture. And the work continued to progress.

### **A LESS-THAN-IDEAL PLAN FOLLOWS**

What followed was a less-than-ideal itinerant-type ministry.

“We would go back to the village and teach, but we had to leave many times due to guerrilla threats and then come back two months later and continue on,” Mark said.

Eventually, the Cains would compare those years of flitting in and out of the village at a moment’s

notice as a game of “dodge them guerrillas.” Mark admits that it “made for slower progress as the length of time we could remain in the village became shorter and shorter.”

But it was clear that God was not limited by the tumultuous circumstances of their lives.

“God had a much larger plan. . . . God used our getting kicked out to change our strategy,” Mark said. “There’s nothing that will stop God from building His Church.”

And so the missionaries adjusted their plans to align with God’s.

“God led us into having a discipleship program outside the tribal area,” Mark told me—and he was quick to give credit to



Photo by Joyce Cain



Photo by Joyce Cain

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**IT WAS CLEAR THAT  
GOD WAS NOT LIMITED  
BY THE TUMULTUOUS  
CIRCUMSTANCES OF  
THEIR LIVES.**

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*Top: Arcesio (pastor at Raya and co-translator) with his wife, Damaris*

*Left: Guahibo man with a catch of fish*



*Mark and Joyce Cain with the Guahibo team right after evacuating in 1987*

his Colombian partner. “Alberto [González] is a real visionary. He’s [the one that] began promoting [the idea] that we teach key men outside the tribal area because we couldn’t live there due to the guerrillas.”

“That began in 1999,” Joyce added. “We invited potential Guahibo leaders from different villages to come into town in order to teach them the Firm Foundations curriculum. Then we taught them how to teach it. Initially, we had about 20, but we ended up with 12 Guahibos—kind of like Jesus’ 12 disciples.”

“We’ve continued to train them. We provide the Scripture, the chronological Bible lessons and Bible studies for all ages. Then they take off with that and go out and reach their people, an easier task since they already know the language and the culture.”

And it has worked!

### THE TWELVE DISCIPLES

“Those original 12 disciples have made disciples who have made disciples,” Joyce pointed out. “We have the first generation of disciples, the second generation and into the third generation that are spreading the Word among the Guahibo people.”

It goes to show that discipleship done well progresses to a new generation of discipleship—and in this case, a few more generations.

But discipleship was not limited to the 12. Discipleship branched out into the villages whenever it was safe to do so. Mark and Joyce remember one particular trip where they spent time in two different Guahibo villages. The travel and living conditions were definitely on the rustic side. Think lack of privacy, dirt floors, a makeshift outhouse and no running water. But the believers’ responses made it, oh, so worth it!

“It was a joy to teach folks who sat soaking up the teaching of God’s Word like sponges,” Mark and Joyce wrote. “The concepts of not being conformed but transformed were delightful new truths to them.”

What more can you ask for?

### GUAHIBO BELIEFS VS. GOD’S REALITY

“As we prepare lessons for Bible teaching, we are ever faced with the reality of what it means for the Guahibo people to apply the truth of God’s Word in their lives,” wrote Alberto and Nancy González.

“Jhon Jorge and I (Alberto) have been developing Bible lessons from the book of Acts. Jhon Jorge is a Guahibo brother in Christ as well as my helper in the preparation of these lessons. As we worked on the lessons, we read about how God worked in the lives of the believers in Ephesus. We also read in a Bible commentary how

Photo by Joyce Cain



*Mark Cain discipling a Guahibo believer*

## DISCIPLESHIP DO A NEW GENERA

there were Jews in Ephesus who tried to use the name of Jesus to perform miracles and that these Jews had a lot of respect in the world of mystics. Jhon was amazed. ...

“When Jhon realized this was even a struggle for the believers of Ephesus, he opened up and began to share what the Guahibo chanted over. ... He shared how his people still erroneously believed in the power and the efficacy of their chants. Then he shared his testimony with me, which showed to me how God is working in his life.

*Before the birth of my daughter, who now is 7 months old, I was looking for a name for her. I liked the name Eunice. So when she was born, I gave her that name, which means “Great Victory.”*

*One week after her birth, when as*

*a good Guahibo I should stay home, I had to go to a Bible seminar in [another] town. On account of our tribal beliefs, no one in our families wanted me to travel. They continually reminded me of our tribal beliefs which teach that the father or mother should not travel to other places while a baby is small nor drink any water other than from the streams near the parents’ village, lest the baby die.*

*When my family expressed their concerns and reminded me of our tribal customs, they did it because they love me and wanted to protect my daughter from harm. They knew that if I would follow our tribal beliefs, my daughter would be safe.*

*Two days before I was to depart, my daughter became sick. Now my family really put pressure on me. Even*

*I began to fear what would happen if I travelled at a time like this. Nevertheless I still planned to go to the Bible seminar.*

*My greatest fear was not for the health of my daughter, but I was afraid of what my own father would do. My father knows a lot of chants, as he is one of the witchdoctors of the village. I was afraid my father would chant over my daughter, invoking the power of Satan. ... In no way did I want this to happen! So I was praying intensely with all my heart to the Lord, asking Him that my daughter would get well before I left, so I could confidently go to the seminar, as well as asking the Lord not to let my father chant over my daughter.*

*I couldn’t tell my wife not to let my father chant over our daughter. Because he is the grandfather, he has authority*



*Discipleship*

## ONE WELL PROGRESSES TO FORMATION OF DISCIPLESHIP

*over the life and health of his granddaughter. The day came for me to leave, and my daughter was still sick. So I prayed to the Lord with all my heart and encouraged my wife to rest in God's care for our daughter.*

*As soon as I returned from the seminar and saw that my daughter was well, I rejoiced. My family told me how the day after I had left on my trip, my father was really down and wouldn't talk to anyone. He was very deep in thought and told my mother about a dream he had dreamed. In this dream he had heard a loud voice that told him that if he chanted over his granddaughter, he would die. On account of that dream, he had not chanted over his granddaughter as he had planned to do. I marvelled at what had happened in my absence. When I heard what had happened, I could only give thanks to God. It was a real confirmation that we had named our daughter right, "Great Victory."*

Alberto summed it up: "As you can see, trusting



*Jhon Jorge (green shirt) on a missionary trip with Cains' partner, Alberto González*



in the Lord Jesus Christ brings real challenges in the life of a Guahibo believer. From the Guahibo point of view, Jhon was behaving very irresponsibly by placing the life of his daughter in danger with his travelling. Yet to Jhon it was an opportunity for stretching and strengthening his faith.”

### **DISCIPLES BECOME THE DISCIPLERS**

Looking back on those early days in the village of Raya, Mark and Joyce recall that they were focused on the adults. They were convinced that it would be the adults that would become the next generation of missionaries. But once again, God had other plans—and His plans are always the best.

“It’s interesting that after we had to leave because of the guerrillas,” Joyce said, “the Lord did a work on the younger generation and raised up translators and evangelists and disciplers from that generation.” And it’s still going on today.

“Yes,” she admits, “it ended up that it was those younger kids in that small church that are now the missionaries.

“God allowed us to be part of ‘our’ missionary Guahibos baptizing ‘their’ first believers! God has opened up a new area of the tribe out on the prairies where our partner, Alberto González, and Guahibo



*Virgilio and Alexander baptizing those they’ve evangelized.*

missionary Jhon Jorge have started evangelizing.”

*“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth”* (3 John 1:4 NKJV). That’s how Mark and Joyce felt when two of the Guahibo missionaries, Virgilio and Alexander, baptized their first converts!

### **THE JOY CONTINUES**

With the Guahibo people group spread over such a vast region, the diverse Guahibo missionary team is scattered across the country with differing roles.

Mark and Joyce are heavily invested in Scripture translation, and they are seeing the fruit of working

alongside mature Guahibo believers in the translation process. The spiritual vocabulary has been honed and refined to bring a much clearer and more accurate translation.

Alberto and Nancy González are reaching out with their Guahibo co-workers, Jhon Jorge, Birgilio Perez and his wife, Elsa, to unreached Guahibo villages on the prairies. Alberto also heads up revising the Bible lessons to reflect the spiritual vocabulary that has been clarified and refined in the translation process.

And those are not the only Guahibo missionaries. José and Janet are partnering with the



Photo by Joyce Cain

Colombian church in the lowlands of northwestern Colombia. And then there are others who do mission trips on their own, many of whom are disciples of José.

Discipleship done well has progressed to a new generation of discipleship—and beyond.

“As we phase out after 45 years of working in Colombia, [it brings us joy] to see that God has raised up different Guahibo missionaries and that God is allowing us to see the expansion and explosion of the Guahibo Church as they go out and

reach their own people. Our hearts leap with joy, and we can say with assurance, ‘It has been worth it all.’”

—Rosie Cochran, Staff Writer



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.

## WHAT ABOUT YOU?

Opportunities abound to be part of seeing a thriving church among every people—and you can be a part!

Would you prayerfully consider joining the team, whether that be as a church planter, a Bible translator or a bookkeeper?

Check out our training at [go.ethnos.ca/training](http://go.ethnos.ca/training).

Or maybe you want to get behind the Guahibo Bible Printing project or the Guahibo Lesson Revision project. Find out more at

[go.ethnos.ca/translate](http://go.ethnos.ca/translate).

And I know there are many prayer warriors out there. Are you signed up for our weekly prayer email and daily prayer request emails? Sign up today at [go.ethnos.ca/subscribe](http://go.ethnos.ca/subscribe).

Get involved, and I’m sure the day will come when you’ll say with Mark and Joyce that

**“IT WAS WORTH IT ALL.”**

## PRAISE

### The Desire Is There

“There is a church among the Kore Kore people of Zimbabwe that desires to take the gospel into Mozambique. The Kore Kore church has been going to the Tawara, but they realized they lacked some tools to be able to do the ministry well,” wrote Tony and Maria Verlaan.

They aren’t asking for missionaries to do the job—they desire to do the job—but they are asking for help. Specifically, they want equipping.

“As an organization, we were asked by the Kore Kore Church to help equip people within the church using our curriculum for their missionary training programs.”

And so that’s what they’re doing. Pray for those on the Integral Vision team in their roles of equippers, encouragers and consultants. And praise God with us that the Kore Kore people are engaging on the edge of the Church to expand its borders and see a thriving church for every people.



Photo by Marilyn Germann



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# Church Planting in Canada Moving Forward

FirstStory Ministries has been seeking the Lord's wisdom on where to begin sending church planting teams to in Canada's north. The needs are huge and the challenges of seeing a thriving indigenous church develop in many of these remote areas are great.

After hearing from those who are living in some of these remote communities (a handful of believers but also many who remain in darkness) a heavy weight has been put on our hearts. The more we hear the more we realize that God has been preparing the fields and that they are ripe

for harvest. There are open doors now that were not open just a short time ago. This harvest is plentiful but the fact remains that the labourers are few.

Although we are often overwhelmed by the needs in Canada, we know that the God we serve is not overwhelmed. We praise Him for all He is doing to move this ministry forward and we continue to pray that God would raise up labourers who would join us in the task of reaching Canada's indigenous people.

Find out more about how you can get involved at [firststoryministries.ca](http://firststoryministries.ca)



Photo by Shane Edmond

## PRAY

### Guahibo New Testament Ready for Printing

"It is with much joy that we share with you the good news that the Lord has allowed us to finish revising the whole New Testament in the Guahibo language," wrote Mark and Joyce Cain from Colombia. "Lord willing, in 2019 we hope to dedicate the Bible with portions of the Old Testament and all the revised New Testament in it."

It's been an exciting time as the missionaries clearly see that the revision of the Guahibo New Testament

is making a difference, largely because the spiritual vocabulary has been clarified and refined in the translation process.

"It makes a difference when you have mature, born-again Guahibos that are translating the Bible alongside you. You're going to get much clearer spiritual vocabulary," explained Mark and Joyce. "The Guahibos are understanding more clearly the revised version."

One man thanked Mark and the revision team for the work, adding, "I am finally understanding clearly what God's Word says."

That's what translators like to hear. There's not much better affirmation than knowing the translation of God's Word is speaking clearly to your target audience.

But the job is not finished until the Bibles are printed and in the hands of the Guahibos. And that process needs a lot of prayer!

Pray for the logistics of the project: where they should have the Bible printed; if printing is done outside Colombia, how to handle the importation process and storage of the printed Bibles most efficiently; and for funds to move forward with the printing process.

Find out more at [go.ethnos.ca/translate](http://go.ethnos.ca/translate)



## CONNECT WITH

### James and Chantal Edwards

#### Jacob, Isaiah, Titus, Julia

**Ministry:** School teacher, Papua New Guinea

**Sending Church:** Bethel Gospel Chapel, New Liskeard, ON; Sudbury Bible Fellowship, Sudbury, ON

We both received Jesus Christ as our Saviour at a young age through camp ministry. Chantal's family were first generation Christians and James was raised in a Christian home. Our friendship was formed in Ottawa and led to our marriage in 2001. From the beginning, the Lord placed an interest for missions in our hearts.

In 2006 we had the opportunity to serve in Belize, Central America, for three months. We assisted in a Christian school, served local churches and learned many valuable lessons about faith in God. We considered going as full time missionaries, but this wasn't God's plan.

The following year, the Lord blessed us with our first child (Jacob 11) and

led us to New Liskeard, Ontario. After supply teaching for a year, James became a college math instructor, replacing a teacher who left to be a missionary in Nicaragua. It's amazing how the Lord works! Over the next 10 years, God blessed us with three more children (Isaiah 9, Titus 7 and Julia 4) and life was busy with raising our children, local church ministry, work and home renovations.

This past summer, the Lord re-kindled our desire to serve as missionaries. We were preparing to host a missionary family and decided to take a look at the Ethnos website. We were surprised to see a need for math teachers. We began praying and the Lord opened the door for us to serve in Papua New Guinea (PNG).

Lord willing, this July we will be heading to PNG. James will teach math and computers at Numonohi Christian Academy. Chantal will help the children adjust and plans to assist

in the medical centre. In many ways we feel like children in kindergarten in God's school of faith. We have so much to learn, but know He is completely faithful and look forward to seeing what He'll do in and through our lives!



Connect with James and Chantal at [ethnos.ca/james-and-chantal-edwards](http://ethnos.ca/james-and-chantal-edwards)

### Kevin and Stella Stroud-Lusk

**Ministry:** Special Education Teachers, Faith Academy, Philippines

**Sending Church:** Northside Baptist Church, Waterloo, ON

"To God be the Glory" was the theme of the mission conference that God used to call our family into full time ministry. At the time, we did not know what God was wanting us to do, but we knew we needed to obey.

Stella and I both received Christ in our late teens. Christ's salvation changed our lives from desperation to deep satisfaction. We could not keep the greatest gift given to us all to ourselves, so with three young girls, we entered the training at Ethnos Canada in 1999.

The Lord has taught us that ministry is where you are and is only successful through complete reliance on HIM and healthy body function. During the training, at times, we were only focused on getting to the tribe,

so we missed chances to be used by God where we were and we regret any lost opportunities. As God moved us after our first term from the tribe to a support role at Faith Academy, we saw His plan to minister "right where HE has you NOW!" He has led us to be Special Education teachers for the last 10 years, and ministry partners with a local church in a squatter community. It has been life changing and faith growing for our family as we got involved in the lives of those near us.

Even though we are not serving in a remote village, we still feel we are a part of the call to reach the unreached. We support the children of cross-cultural church planters through advice, direct instruction or testing. We keep families on the field and focused on their call as we fulfill our call to reach the world.

We also want to acknowledge the body of Christ in our ministry. We would never have been in ministry without faithful supporters who believed in God's calling in our

lives. We are grateful for the staff at Ethnos who trained us and sustain us on the field, for each of our prayer and financial partners, as well as our friends and coworkers and of course our family. We are only able to minister to the kids of missionary families and our brothers and sisters in the Philippines because of the faithfulness of many and we thank you all as we live daily to give God all the glory.



Connect with Kevin and Stella at [ethnos.ca/kevin-and-stella-stroud-lusk](http://ethnos.ca/kevin-and-stella-stroud-lusk)

### Allan and Esther Giesbrecht

**Ministry:** FirstStory Ministries development

**Sending Church:** Emmanuel Baptist Church, Nipawin, SK

Allan and Esther grew up in Christian homes and met in a farming community in northern BC. They both attended one year of Bible school after high school and were married in 1977. They spent the first seven years of married life in a farming business. During these years they served in their home church and matured as believers.

Even before they were married, Allan and Esther talked about full-time Christian ministry and were praying about how they might do this in the future. In 1983, Allan enrolled at Moody Bible Institute in the missionary aviation program. During the years at Moody, they were made aware of several ministries serving

among Canada's First Nations and Inuit. Through this exposure, they felt led by God to serve in their home country.

In 1988, after graduating from Moody, they were accepted as full-time missionaries with Northern Canada Evangelical Mission. They have spent the last 29 years serving with NCEM in various roles. The verses in 2 Corinthians 5:11-21 have had a strong influence in their lives, contributing to their desire to be "ministers of reconciliation". Some of their roles have included in-community church development, pilot/mechanic, director of NCEM aviation, field and executive team leadership, and church planting facilitators.

Now as part of FirstStory, Esther is helping develop curriculum for FirstStory missionary orientation and Allan is serving in the areas of Ministry Opportunity Assessments (MOAs) and member care. Allan

is also helping Ethnos360 Aviation assess the possible development of an aviation support program for church planting teams in isolated parts of Canada's north.



Connect with Allan and Esther at  
[ethnos.ca/allan-and-esther-giesbrecht](http://ethnos.ca/allan-and-esther-giesbrecht)

## IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

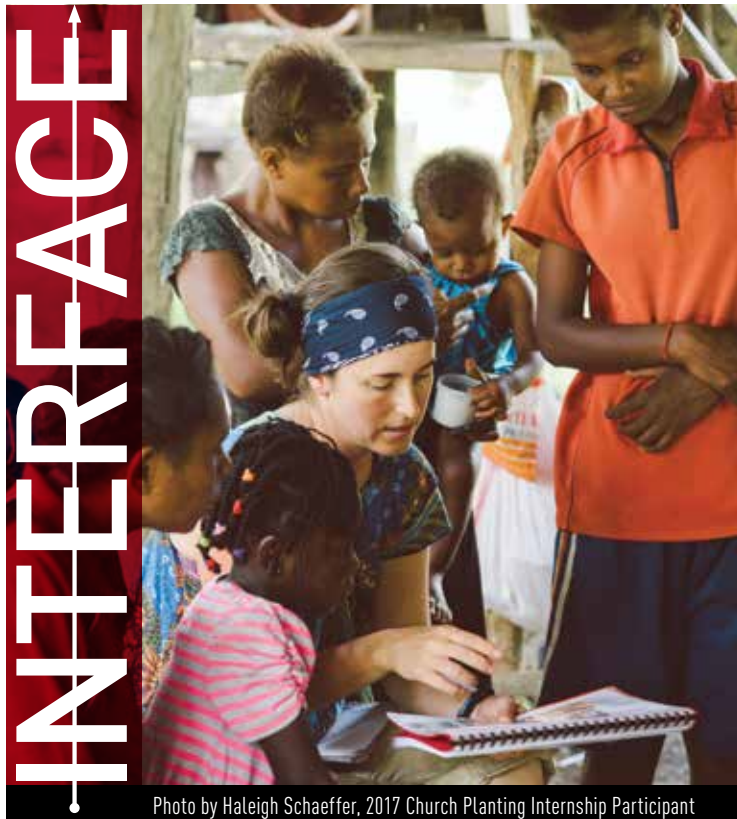


Photo by Haleigh Schaeffer, 2017 Church Planting Internship Participant

Come face to face with realities unknown to most people. See firsthand what it takes to plant a church among people who have no concept of the God of the Bible. Learn from missionaries on the field and spend time with tribal people.

**INTERFACE** is a six-week college-level course in Papua New Guinea.

**COURSE TOPICS INCLUDE:**

- Motivation for Missions
- Evangelism and Discipleship
- Culture and Language Acquisition
- Critical Issues in Missions
- Cross-cultural Communications

[ethnos360.org/interface](http://ethnos360.org/interface)

### FIELD SUPPORT INTERNSHIPS

Come for Interface and stay an extra two weeks to get a closer look at one of six key support ministries: aviation, medical, education, information technology, maintenance and business administration.

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407.547.2491 or [missiontrips@ntm.org](mailto:missiontrips@ntm.org)

### CHURCH PLANTING INTERNSHIPS

Spend a semester in Papua New Guinea experiencing tribal church planting firsthand. Experienced Ethnos360 church planters guide your exposure to the culture and language of tribal people, translating the Bible, preaching the gospel, and establishing indigenous churches among them.

[ethnos360.org/church-planting-internships](http://ethnos360.org/church-planting-internships)

407.547.2491 or [missiontrips@ntm.org](mailto:missiontrips@ntm.org)

# BREAKING DOWN TRANSLATION COSTS



## The New Testament

27 Books  
260 Chapters  
7,959 Verses

## Language Variations

ENGLISH = 180,000 WORDS  
GREEK = 138,000 WORDS  
KUMAN = 330,000 WORDS



Because of variations in languages, the number of words differs from one translation to another.

## Translation Project Cost

THE TOTAL COST associated with a New Testament translation project varies, but our general estimate is \$280,000.

## \$280K Funds

A New Testament translation project covers:

- Translation
- Literacy Training
- Bible Lessons
- Printing



## Breaking It All Down

Based on the Size of English Translations

**\$1.50**  
ONE WORD

The word "grace" appears roughly 100 times in the New Testament, so a gift of \$150 would pay to translate every instance of grace. "Church" is found about 75 times, meaning a gift of \$110 would cover translating every time that word appears. "Thank" appears about 20 times, so a gift of \$30 would fund the translation of every use of that word.

**\$35**  
ONE VERSE

The longest verse in the New Testament, Revelation 20:4, has 71 words, and a gift of \$100 would provide for that. The shortest verse, John 11:35, would cost \$3: "Jesus wept."

**\$1,000**  
ONE CHAPTER

The longest, Luke 1, would require about \$3,000. But \$300 would provide for the shortest, Revelation 15.

**\$10,000**  
ONE BOOK

The shortest one, 2 John, could be completed for about \$450, while the longest, Luke, would take \$40,000.

**\$90,000**  
ALL FOUR GOSPELS

Want to help?  
[go.ethnos.ca/translate](http://go.ethnos.ca/translate)



# USE YOUR TEACHING SKILLS IN MISSIONS

John and Amber Adams are teachers at Numonohi Christian Academy in Papua New Guinea. John teaches history, French and social studies, while Amber teaches second grade.

We discussed their motivation for teaching missionary children on the other side of the world. Following are a few highlights from our interview.

**Q:** Do you see yourself as part of the church planting team?

**John:** Absolutely. It's a real privilege to be a part of that church planting team.... It takes a lot of people to get the gospel to those places.... You don't have to be a Bible translator or a church planter directly to be involved in the ministry.

**Amber:** Well, I'm a teacher and so I teach. But the reason I teach is because I teach children of the pilots and children of mechanics and children of the IT people and children of those who are working with the government and children of the Bible translators and children of the church planters.

And because I'm teaching, all of those people can do their ministries,

the Bible is getting translated and people are coming to know God. That's the exciting part of being able to teach. So I'm just doing basic teaching with the little kids because that's what I know best. But because I'm there, everyone else can be there, play their part and people come to know God.

**Q:** What is the most fulfilling thing about teaching here?

**John:** The most fulfilling thing is realizing that we're part of a bigger work, that we're part of getting the gospel spread to people who've never heard it before. [It's] knowing that when I do something that seems very basic like grading a test for a history class, that little bit of work that I'm doing is making it possible for other missionaries to preach the gospel, for other missionaries to translate the Bible, for other missionaries to do discipleship work.... That makes the job worth doing.

**Q:** What's the most fulfilling thing about being here?

**Amber:** I love being a teacher and I love seeing kids learn. I love just

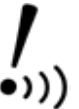
the joy when they come up and they say, "I love reading," "I love math," and "I've just understood this." I love being part of that. That's the day in day out that kind of keeps me going.

But part of me thinks I only have so much time that God's given me. And 100 years from now no one's going to remember my name. No one's going to remember I was here. But here, a hundred years from now, a tribal church will have a Bible in their language, and they'll still have that Bible.

They won't remember me, and it won't matter. But they'll know God. And there will be believers there, and they'll be brothers and sisters a hundred years from now because I was teaching reading and because I was teaching math and because I was investing in those kids and watching them grow.

—David Pierce, Staff Writer

Find out where you can use your teaching skills in missions. [go.ethnos.ca/teach-abroad](http://go.ethnos.ca/teach-abroad)



And 100 years from now no one's going to remember my name. No one's going to remember I was here. But here, a hundred years from now, a tribal church will have a Bible in their language, and they'll still have that Bible.

# THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BOOK

**Vital — as in life-giving — is a great word for the importance of God's Word in a church.**

**EME HELPED TRANSLATE  
THE NEW TESTAMENT IN BUDIK.**

Two years ago, when I made my first visit to Africa, celebrating Easter with African believers thrilled me. Getting to know missionaries who have worked for years just to begin ministry in a village inspired me. Driving the length and breadth of one country to visit another—dealing with road construction, flat tires, overloaded buses and trucks — at times terrified me.

Yet the thing I remember most vividly—the memory that leaps to mind when I think of my time in Africa—came during a stopover in a Budik village.

The Budik people heard the gospel years ago. Many believed. But the church showed little evidence of spiritual life. There were few signs of personal growth, precious little numerical growth and scant impact on the community. Until shortly before our visit.

Something happened that changed everything.

The Budik believers received the New Testament in their own language.

“I’m really happy for the arrival of the Word of God,” said Eme, who helped Kathy Satorius translate. “In times past we couldn’t always tell, but now we can tell what is truth—what is God’s Word and what are traditions. It helps us sort out and discern God’s perspective of our traditions.”

The Budiks had bits and pieces of the Bible before this. They had a printed version of Mark and other books as well as selections from the Old Testament. But suddenly they had it all in one place. And that made a big difference.

“It used to be when there was teaching on something, we’d have to go find it in this book over here,” Eme said, “or if they were referring to something else, we’d have to find it in another book over there. But now it’s all together, and it’s all available, and not just me but all of the believers appreciate having everything in one book.”

Pityan, who helped Kathy’s husband, Ken, with Bible translation, agreed.

“It’s clear that God is working in our midst. Because the Word of God that was brought to us by Ken and Kathy and by me and Eme who translated, now the Word is available to everyone. ... Now when we have meetings, everyone brings their Bibles, and they’re using the meetings to learn and grow more than they were able to before.”

And the blessings continue.

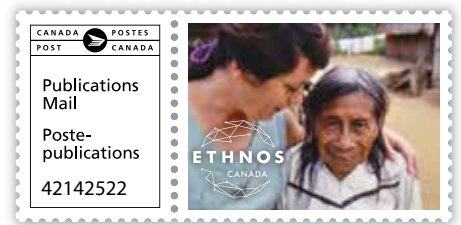
“Even those that aren’t believers that are learning to read and write their own language, they’re being drawn to the Word of God. They’re becoming interested,” Eme said.

Bible translation is a vital part of establishing a thriving church.

May the testimony of the Budik believers demonstrate to us the tremendous blessing it is to hold God’s Word in our own language in our hands. And perhaps that will remind us not just to hold it, but open it, read it, live it and share it.

—*Ian Fallis, Managing Editor*

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# COMBINE YOUR HEART FOR TEACHING WITH YOUR PASSION FOR MISSIONS.



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