

'Reading Is a Big Thing' —Page 12

Too Moved to Move —Page 18

We're on the Same Team —Page 20

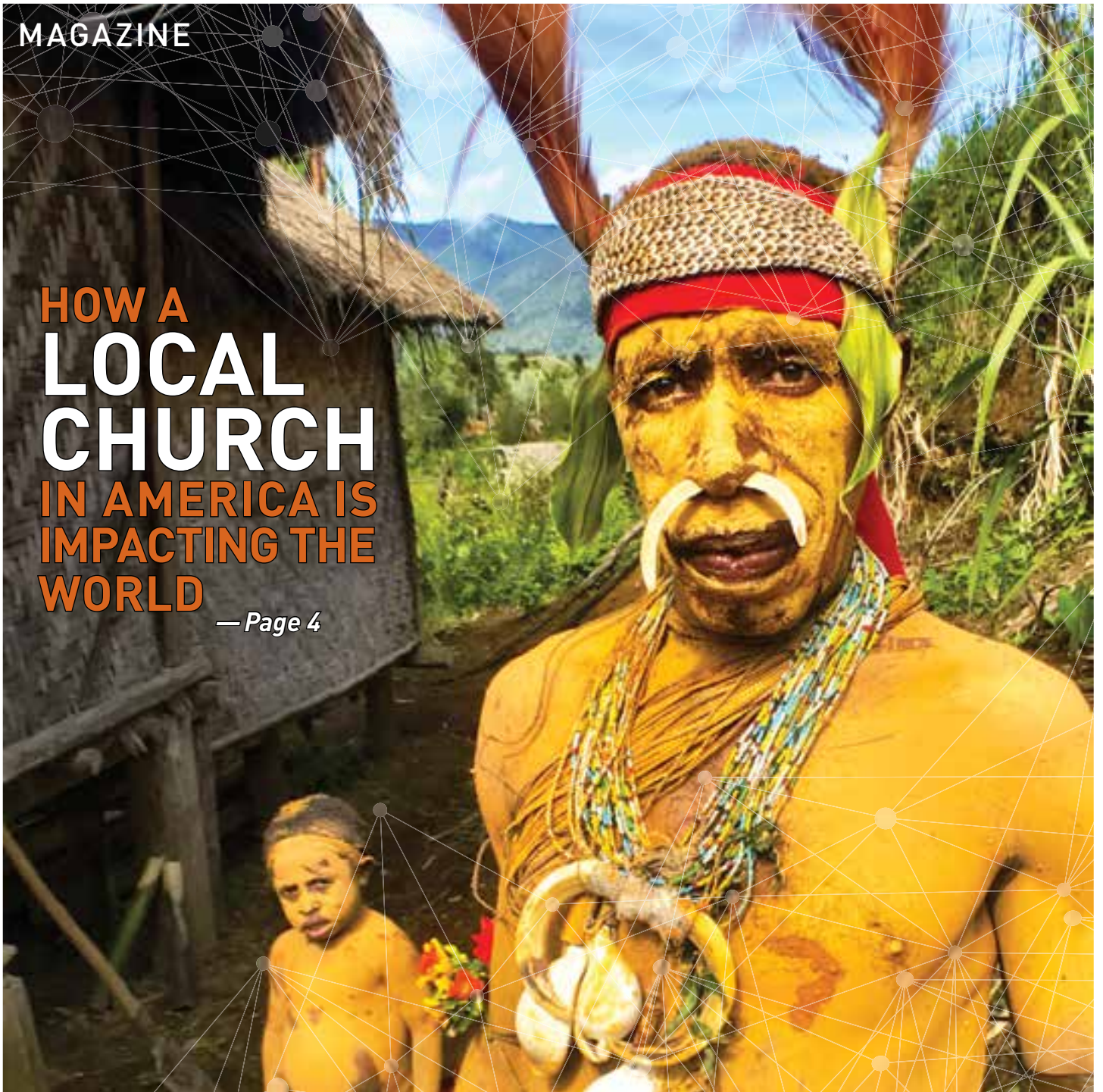
A THRIVING CHURCH FOR EVERY PEOPLE

ETHNOS

MAGAZINE

HOW A
**LOCAL
CHURCH**
IN AMERICA IS
IMPACTING THE
WORLD

—Page 4



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Cover photo Jeremy Hambrice

Dear Friend,

You know the story—God who is the all powerful, all knowing, ever present, Creator God of the universe stepped out of eternity and willingly confined Himself to the body of a human. He did this with the single purpose of fulfilling His promise of a rescuer—Genesis 3:15.

It's incredible.

What is even more amazing is that as the body of Christ—the Church—we have been tasked with taking this message of hope to the nations/ethnos (Matthew 28:16-18). God wants to use ordinary people like you and me to do extraordinary work.

Out of all the ways that God could have chosen to spread His plan of salvation, God, in His infinite wisdom, choose to use people. As the director of Ethnos Canada, it is exhilarating to see God at work—through His people!

All around our country He is stirring up churches and individuals to pray, give and go. In Revelation 7:9, God promises that one day there will be representatives from "all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb..."

Until that day, let's continue to push forward, knowing that God will continue to grow His Church. Thank you for the part you play in establishing a thriving church for every tribe, tongue and nation/ethnos.

Tim Whatley
Ethnos Canada
Executive Director



NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

Strategic Moves of Ethnos

One of the strategic moves that Ethnos Canada does is finding out where missionaries should be placed in order to see a thriving church for every people. As a sample of what the leadership is considering as options, look at the following countries and the people groups that are high on the priorities list.

Papua New Guinea

Depending on what criteria are used to determine a people group's understanding of the gospel, estimates vary as to the number of groups still to be reached. A conservative estimate is that there are dozens of the 850 language groups in this country still waiting to have a thriving church in their midst.

The following are being considered in the Sepik region:

- * Lambena — population 1,700
- * Swagap — population 350
- * Govamas — population 1,700
- * Hewa West — population 1,900
- * Afundi — population 400
- * Umeda — population 300

In the Islands region, the following are being considered:

- * Qaqet — population 15,000
- * Nakanai (existing work needing personnel) — population 20,000
- * Kaul (existing work needing personnel) — population 6,000



Photo by Dan Gold - Unsplash

Other locations being considered have functioning churches that desire partners to reach neighbouring people groups. These are the two on one island:

- * Ata
- * Asengseng

Mexico

These people groups are being considered:

- * Zapoteco (many dialects of this group)
- * Seri
- * Lower Guarijio
- * Yaquí
- * Mayo

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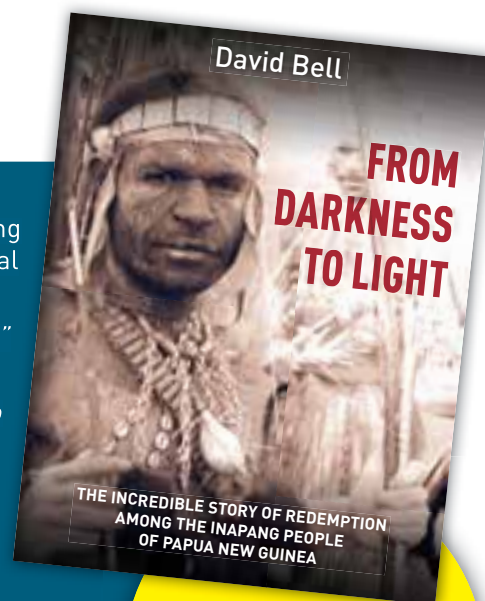
AN EXCITED GROUP OF INAPANGS gathered on the first day of teaching, meeting in the U-shaped shelter they built for the occasion. A timeline representing biblical history stretched about 50 yards around the building.

"We are just this last mark in time, but God's story goes all the way back to the beginning," said a man who spoke for all those who marvelled at the new revelation.

"Our ancestors didn't know about all that time back behind us. They didn't know and so they couldn't tell us. We didn't know either until now."

Their knowledge of God's story and how it would affect them was just beginning...

Enter into the incredible journey of redemption for the Inapang people. Discover what it takes to reach an unreached people group and rejoice with us as you witness their transformation, *from darkness to light!*



Download a free copy of
From Darkness To Light
at go.ethnos.ca/fddl



emanate

Emanate is Ethnos Canada's training program for believers interested in church planting among unreached people groups.

At Emanate, students are equipped as part of a community that is committed to sacrifice, excellence and urgency for the gospel. Teaching from field-proven theory, our trainers have been there and teach from firsthand experience.

3 THREAD APPROACH

Our curriculum at Emanate is tied together by three threads. Each class builds and develops together, to create a single coherent course specifically geared toward church planting among the unreached— Biblical Worldview, Missional Lifestyle and Church Planting.

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HEART LANGUAGE MINISTRY IN LITERACY

There exists a rather marked difference between our culture here in Canada and that of many people groups living in isolation in jungles or mountain valleys when it comes to things that are written. We rely on the ability to read for everything from Facebook posts to legal documents. The isolated village has no signs to read (other than those of nature), no directions to read in a cookbook, no novels or biographies, and often no Internet connection. But now many of them do have the Word of God.

As the international literacy coordinators, Jerry and Joyce McDaniels ask the following question in each seminar that they teach, "So what do you think our goal for literacy is?" It's a trick question. The answer is not so people can read and write.

"It's so that they can know the Creator God," Jerry said. "God chose to write the most important message down. Creator God, Who could have chosen any method in all the world to preserve His Word, chose a written method. That just kind of implies that you need to have readers. It's pretty practical when you just step back and think about it."



HELICOPTER UPDATE

Ethnos360 Aviation needs two helicopters for two distinct places: the Philippines and Brazil. Their versatility lends to their utility, but that utility comes at a high price.

Here are the outstanding needs for each one:

Brazil: \$1 million of \$1.8 million

Philippines: \$248,568 of \$1.5 million

Here's how you can help: For

Brazil: go.ethnos.ca/brazil-r66

For the Philippines:

go.ethnos.ca/phil-r66



Watch videos and order "Coins for Copters" can-wrap labels for your children or Sunday school group at go.ethnos.ca/aviation

HELP BUY A HELICOPTER

NEW TESTAMENT UPDATES

At the end of last year, the Prai believers in Thailand celebrated receiving the New Testament in their own language. It was a smaller event because later this year they will celebrate when they have delivered to them a higher quality printing of combined Old Testament portions and the New Testament.

In West Africa, the translation team has finished nearly 93 percent of the New Testament in the Palaka language, awaiting a final check on several books that took place in January before they could truly say they were at that 93 percent. The remaining 7 percent consists of Hebrews, James, Jude and 1, 2 and 3 John, which they hope to complete and send off to the consultant by mid-May of this year.

In the Philippines, the entire Kalanguya Bible hopefully will be ready for the printers as early as April of this year. The Banwaon New Testament is progressing. James, 1 and 2 Peter and Hebrews should be ready for the translation check in April.

In Papua New Guinea, the Gende translation has progressed to include Genesis, Exodus, Ruth and Jonah in the Old Testament and about 20 percent of the New Testament. **Here's where you can go to help:** ethnos.ca/translate





**UNTIL NOW,
THE WANTAKIA
PEOPLE HAVE
REMAINED
CUT OFF WITH
NEITHER GOSPEL
MESSAGE NOR
BIBLE IN
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LANGUAGE.**

ON THE LONG ROAD OF MAKING DISCIPLES

Spread among ten small villages in the mountains of Papua New Guinea, the Wantakia people live isolated lives. For over 20 years, representatives from this people group of more than 6,000 have been asking missionaries to bring them “God’s Talk.” Until now, they have remained cut off with neither gospel message nor Bible in their own language.

But these are coming soon. And with them, hope.

In 2015, three families—Jack and Lael Crabtree, Jeremy and Mandy Hambrice, and BJ and Jill Sanders—started out on the long road of making disciples among the Wantakia people.

Living with the people, they studied diligently in order to understand the Wantakians’ culture and language, to put their unwritten language into a written form and to teach them to read their own language.

They have started translating the Scriptures and will later shift into a cycle of continuous translating and teaching, first from Creation to Christ and then through the entire New Testament. This long-term discipleship will not be measured in weeks or months, but in years.

SENT BY THE CHURCH

EQUIPPED BY THE CHURCH TO SERVE

So how did Jeremy and Mandy get from Arkansas to the opposite side of the world? They certainly didn't just "end up" there. God sent them, and He used the local church.

Jeremy calls First Baptist Church of Magnolia his spiritual home. That is where pastors David Watkins, Stan Scroggins, Roger Dunlap and Dustin Wisely, along with many other faithful men of God, poured their lives into Jeremy and later his wife, Mandy. They discipled Jeremy and Mandy in the Word, and they exemplified living out God's mission right where God placed them.

With warmth in his voice, Pastor Dunlap recalled those earlier days and years. "I knew Jeremy when he was a young man, when he was a boy really. [When Jeremy was] in junior high and high school, I watched him grow. ... He really began to take his spiritual walk seriously."

While being discipled at First Baptist, Jeremy attended nearby Southern Arkansas University on a baseball scholarship.

It was in this context of discipleship and spiritual growth that Jeremy entered professional sports. "After my junior year in 2006, I got a call from the New York

Mets that told me that I had been drafted and that they wanted me to come play for them."

Jeremy started playing for the Mets as God continued to direct him.

In between his two seasons with the Mets, Jeremy continued to grow spiritually as he spent concentrated time studying the Word with his close friend Pastor Dunlap. After his second season, Jeremy's cousin, who serves with a ministry called The Traveling Team, also influenced him toward missions.

"For the first time," Jeremy said, "I began to see that there was a story other than mine. And I wanted to be involved in God's story."

Jeremy realized that "I should not ask, 'God, what is your will for my life?' but instead should ask, 'God, what is your will, and how do I fit into it?'"

Once that better question was asked, the answer was straightforward. God's Word was so clear. He had called us to make disciples of all nations.

"I was challenged with the fact that we've had the Bible in our language for over 400 years. But there were 2,000 or more language groups that didn't have one word from God written

in their own language." As far as Jeremy was concerned, he needed a call from God *to stay home*. Otherwise, he planned to go to one of those groups.

Jeremy left the Mets. He and Mandy headed back to Arkansas to seek the Lord's direction with the help of First Baptist.

PREPARING TO SEND THE MISSIONARIES

First Baptist had a reputation for being missions-minded, generously giving of their finances. But now they were embarking on a new journey: they would send a family from within their midst as full-time cross-cultural missionaries. What would this look like?

Sending their own missionary "was a whole new paradigm for us," Pastor Dunlap recalls. "Our people have proven that they had a heart for missions, but we wanted to know if they had a heart for sending out a missionary."

Together the pastors and Jeremy spent time in prayer and in research.

They recognized that the framework would have to be First Baptist *with* the Hambrices.

Jeremy encapsulated their collective understanding of what the relationship would look like



The pastors from First Baptist with Jeremy: Drew Russell, Brent Summerhill, Jeremy Hambrice, Roger Dunlap, Dustin Wisely



Photo by Conroy Walker

biblically: “From the beginning of this whole process, we knew there was no way we could do this without First Baptist Church of Magnolia, nor did we want to. We were certain that if God were calling us, then He must have been calling our entire church body as well.”

Furthermore, “we could not just be missionaries that our church merely supported. First Baptist was going to have to see planting churches among the nations as their call and responsibility and send us as their servants to go and do it.

“As our sending church, it

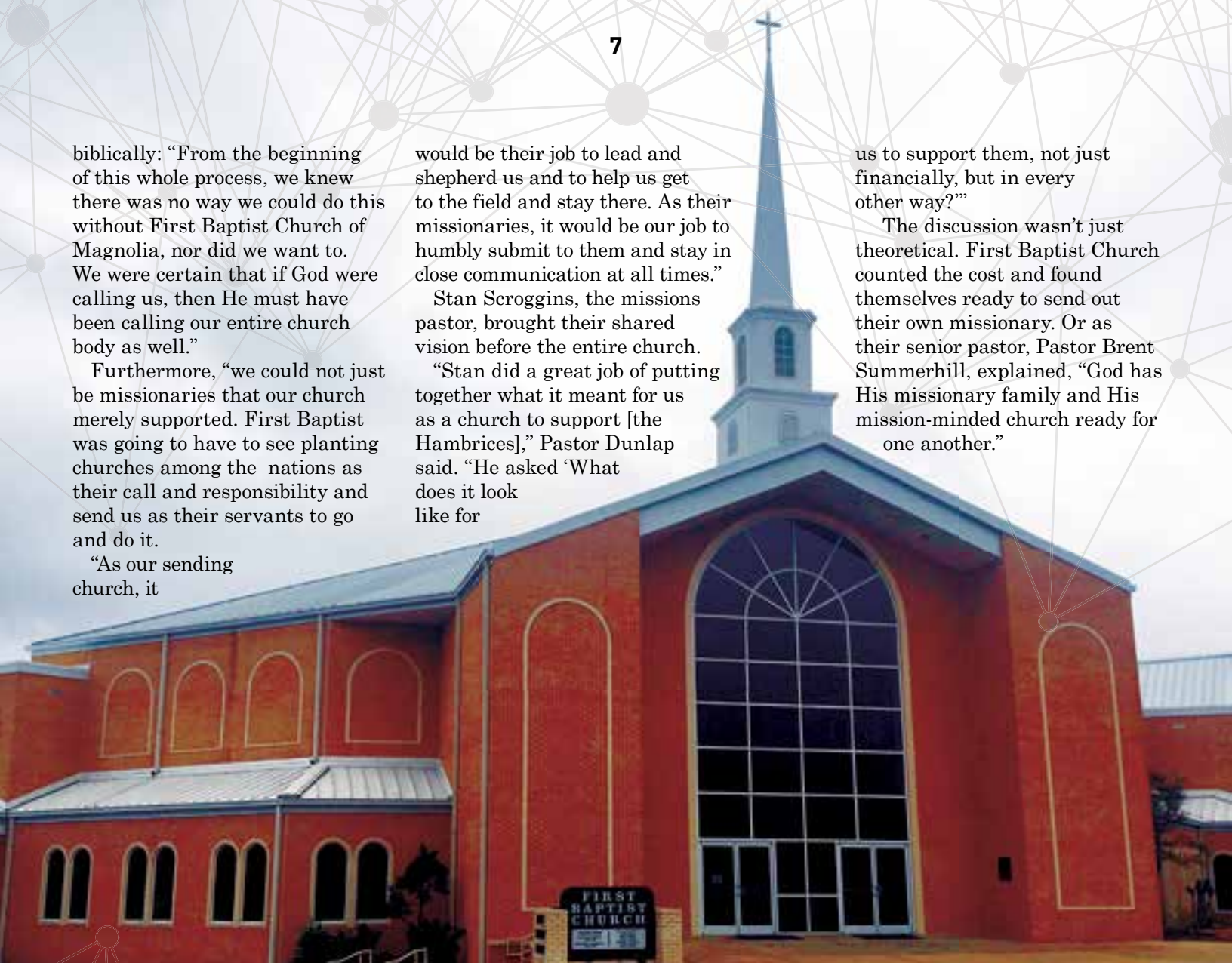
would be their job to lead and shepherd us and to help us get to the field and stay there. As their missionaries, it would be our job to humbly submit to them and stay in close communication at all times.”

Stan Scroggins, the missions pastor, brought their shared vision before the entire church.

“Stan did a great job of putting together what it meant for us as a church to support [the Hambrices],” Pastor Dunlap said. “He asked ‘What does it look like for

us to support them, not just financially, but in every other way?’”

The discussion wasn’t just theoretical. First Baptist Church counted the cost and found themselves ready to send out their own missionary. Or as their senior pastor, Pastor Brent Summerhill, explained, “God has His missionary family and His mission-minded church ready for one another.”



PREPARING THE MISSIONARIES TO GO

As Jeremy and Mandy kept praying, God answered. He gave them a similar yearning as that of the Apostle Paul. Jeremy said, “We had a desire to go where the gospel had never been and to translate the Bible into a language that did not yet have it.”

Their church leadership then provided direction by pointing them to Dr. John David Smith and the other Baptist Mission Association of America (BMAA) directors.

“They were excited to hear about how God was leading First Baptist and were ready to help us continue to move forward,” Jeremy



The team sent to reach the Wantakia people: BJ and Jill Sanders, Jeremy and Mandy Hambrice, Jack and Lael Crabtree

recalls. Though Dr. Smith had developed an excellent program for training BMAA missionaries, he assessed that the skills needed to reach a remote people group would require specialized instruction. With his considerable background in equipping missionaries, he determined that Ethnos' program would prepare them well.

Dr. Smith and Jeremy explained the need for this preparation to First Baptist, and they watched the Lord bring unity. Jeremy expounded, "Our church, the missions office and our family all agreed that the best road for us to take would be to enter Ethnos' extensive cross-cultural training program."

First Baptist had faithfully disciplined the Hambrices and confirmed their call to serve God as cross-cultural missionaries. Then they "made it their responsibility to see that we got the best training possible," Jeremy said.

During their four-year training with Ethnos, First Baptist provided financially for the Hambrices and arranged opportunities for growth in ministry. The pastors mentored Jeremy as he interned at the church over the summers, growing in his ability to teach and preach.

THE CHURCH SENDS THE MISSIONARIES

First Baptist invested heavily in Jeremy and Mandy even before they arrived on the field. According to Pastor Summerhill, "We want to engage in [our missionaries'] lives and invest in them because by investing in them, we're investing in the gospel.

"Once our church believes this is what God's calling us to do," he said, "we're all the way in, and we're going to do what's necessary financially as well as in these other areas." Conversely, he pointed out that lack of unity or preparedness would be a hindrance to the gospel.

They exemplified unity when it came time to choose a place of service. "We studied the world together, and we prayerfully asked God to make it clear where First Baptist should send us," Jeremy wrote.

The Hambrices then faced another major step—developing a team of ministry partners. First Baptist again took the lead. They supported Jeremy and Mandy financially, and Pastor Scroggins connected them with other churches where they could share their vision.

The time finally came for the Hambrices to head to the field.

"I will never forget the day we were officially sent out by First Baptist Church of Magnolia," Jeremy wrote. The church leaders ordained him, and Pastor Scroggins challenged them with an emotional message.

"That night I was given the opportunity to preach and praise God for meeting all of our needs," Jeremy wrote. The church also threw a going



“WE STUDIED THE WORLD TOGETHER, AND WE PRAYERFULLY ASKED GOD TO MAKE IT CLEAR WHERE FIRST BAPTIST SHOULD SEND US.”

All the photos on these two pages were taken by Jared Fincher





away party after the service. The memory of that time, Jeremy said, “still encourages us to this day.”

KEEPING THE MISSIONARIES ON THE FIELD

First Baptist Church takes responsibility for seeing the Wantakia people reached through Jeremy and Mandy. Pastor Dunlap expresses it this way: “Our church feels a real ownership in their ministry, in their lives, in their family.”

The church installed Pastor Summerhill as their new senior pastor *after* Jeremy and Mandy arrived in Papua New Guinea. He, too, fully embraced the church’s vision of sending the Hambrices to reach the Wantakia people on their behalf.

“Brent just pushed us further down the road,” said Pastor Dunlap of Pastor Summerhill. “The way that he encourages the church to support Jeremy in so many different ways” heartened both the church body and the Hambrices.

Pastor Summerhill plainly spelled out his and First Baptist’s ownership of the Hambrices’ ministry: “When we talk about Jeremy and Mandy and Papua New Guinea, our goal, our prayer, is to see the Wantakians reached and disciplined.”

To give specific detail about First Baptist’s desire for the Wantakia people, he referenced an Ethnos video about another missionary team that had gone into an unreached people group. They studied the culture and language, translated Scripture, taught literacy and shared the gospel. They disciplined and trained the believers. God planted a church through the missionaries, and the church had His Word in their heart language.

That is First Baptist’s goal and desire for the Wantakians. They know that in order to

reach that goal they *must* take care of their missionaries. “One of my key concerns is their personal well-being... not only physically and emotionally, but also spiritually,” said Pastor Summerhill.

Jeremy recognizes First Baptist’s vital role in their ministry as well. “Now that we are here, First Baptist’s responsibility has become even greater. Not only are they responsible to keep us here, but they are responsible to make sure the Wantakians get the gospel and grow in it.”

One way that First Baptist takes care of the Hambrices is by ensuring that they have the financial resources necessary to fulfill their ministry. They give abundantly and sacrificially—along with other churches, the denomination and individuals—to provide for the Hambrices’ needs.

But, their investment in the Hambrices goes far beyond finances; Pastor Summerhill along with a team from First Baptist came to help complete their house in 2015.

Also, the church regularly communicates with Jeremy and Mandy. This encourages the family and keeps First Baptist up to date on the ministry’s progress. When Pastor Summerhill receives an update, he shares it with the congregation.

“Jeremy has messaged me and said, ‘Hey, listen, if I get a video to you, will you show it?’ Well, of course we will. And so our people have been able to see Jeremy and Mandy and their children talking about what they are doing.”

If Jeremy has a request, Pastor Summerhill said, “We do it right then even if we have to change what we have planned.”

The communication is good in both directions. Pastor Dunlap highlighted the fact that the Hambrices “do a great job of keeping us informed,” and



Photo by Jeremy Mitchell



Photo by Jeremy Mitchell

commended Pastor Summerhill for keeping their names in front of the people. “There’s seldom a week that goes by that... they’re not mentioned.”

Of course, technology helps. “Our people have direct contact with Jeremy and Mandy through Facebook and [other] social media,” said Pastor Summerhill. “Seldom do I ever get up and say anything to the church that they don’t already know.”

Jeremy continues to be encouraged by First Baptist’s dynamic relationship with them. They hear from members of the church frequently while in Papua New Guinea, and pastors often call.

“When they come home,” related Pastor Summerhill, “our church does a tremendous job of taking care of them, encouraging them, doing our best to meet their needs and just loving on them.”

LOOKING FORWARD TO THAT DAY

First Baptist previously thought that when someone felt called to missions, he simply went. Through sending Jeremy and Mandy, they learned that a process must take place, and the fruit often comes years down the road. Indeed, planting churches is a long road, but they’re well on their way.

“The whole reason we’ve sent Jeremy and Mandy is to see them do what they are doing,” said Pastor Summerhill. They’ve learned the language, developed an alphabet and are now in the translation process.

The church prays for the time when the team can start teaching the Bible.

Pastor Summerhill acknowledges that it’s not just the Hambrices. “I keep talking about Jeremy and Mandy, but the rest of that team is vitally important to what’s going on. ... So, we pray for that whole team to get to that place where

they are sharing with the Wantakians God’s story of Who He is, what He has done and how He redeemed them, and to begin seeing them converted to Christ, to see them being disciplined in Christ.”

Pastor Summerhill looks forward to the day when, together, they reach the end of that road.

“And so that’s our heart, to support Jeremy and Mandy and the rest of the team so that the day comes when there is a church on that mountain clinging to the Word of God, trusting in the gospel of Jesus Christ.”

—David Pierce, Staff Writer, with Jeremy Hambrice, Church Planter

Portions of this article were based on an article written by Jeremy Hambrice for the March/April 2015 issue of mission: world magazine, the Great Commission magazine of Baptist Missionary Association of America.



Sent by Calvary Monument Bible Church in Paradise, Pennsylvania, and Westside Community Chapel in Amboy, New York, David, his wife,

Michelle, and their six children, served in Papua New Guinea for 13 years. As God closed doors there, He opened new doors of service with Ethnos360’s Ministry Advancement team in Sanford, Florida.



Jeremy and his wife, Mandy, and their three girls hail from Magnolia, Arkansas, from where First Baptist Church sent them to reach the Wantakia people of

Papua New Guinea. They have learned the language and are translating the Bible and preparing Bible lessons in hopes that they will begin teaching the Wantakia God’s Word for the first time this year. They serve with their best friends and coworkers—the Crabtree and Sanders families.



JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Is God’s heart for the nations the heart of your church? What are some ways you are helping your missionaries to reach the nations through you?

Share online using the handle @ethnoscanada and the hashtags below. Or write to us. Encourage and inspire other churches with what you’re doing! We’ll share some of your responses in a future issue of the magazine.



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Ethnos Magazine

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Why Do They Need to Read?

Take a moment to think about how amazing it is that you can decipher these little black marks on white paper into words.

Hundreds of languages still have no alphabet and therefore no written form. How important is it to put their language in a form they can read, teach them to read and give them the Bible in their own language?

We'll let them tell you.

Andrea, a believer among the Nahuatl people of Mexico, prayed this before a class:

“Our Dad God,

I wanted to tell you something—well, ask for You to help us. You should help us students, the little ones as well as the big ones. Give us luck; give us strength to do well in school. Don't allow us to be lazy but cause us to pay attention and to be smart. Cause our teacher to be wise

and cause us to learn well so that we can read. That is all I wanted to say. That only.” (After a frantic whisper from her two kids: “Oh, I guess I forgot to say ‘Amen.’”)

Hawadi, a new reader among the Landuma people of Africa—a wife, mother and grandmother who learned to read as a mature adult—said, “I can read now. I am no longer like a cow. A cow just walks around and eats, and that is all I used to do. Now I can read; I can learn things.”


“Thank you for teaching me to read,” said Loida, a Kuna lady from Panama. “Otherwise that Book (pointing to the Bible) would just be a book sitting on my table. But because I can read, it's God's Word speaking to me.”

Iyodotabo, a Moi woman in the Asia-Pacific region, is glad to have

a body of believers to worship with and a New Testament in her own language. “I think it's good to know how to read God's Word so that we can know the Creator's talk and get His truth straight from His Word. If we just rely on our own thoughts, it will be crooked. If we take it from the Creator's talk, it won't be crooked. It will just be true. Because the Creator made His talk to be truth, we can get truth from His leaf (book).”

Minawagii, another Moi, said, “Reading is good because I can read the Creator's talk and then tell it to others. But I can only teach others in the Creator's strength. People that don't think ‘It's true’ about Jesus also think that reading is a small thing. But we who think ‘It's true’ about Jesus know that reading is a big thing.”

International literacy coordinators Jerry and Joyce McDaniels say the

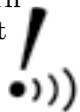


“...WE WHO THINK ‘IT'S TRUE’ ABOUT JESUS KNOW THAT READING IS A BIG THING.”

reason they teach people how to teach literacy is not so people can learn to read and write.

“It’s so that they can know the Creator God,” Jerry said. “God chose to write the most important message down. Creator God, who could have chosen any method in all the world to preserve His Word, chose a written method. That just kind of implies that you need to have readers. It’s pretty practical when you just step back and think about it.”

That’s why literacy is a key component of our Bible translation project. \$35 provides not only for one verse to be translated, but for literacy materials and Bible lessons. Learn more or make a secure online gift at ethnos.ca/translate



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2,000 YEARS AFTER
JOHN OF PATMOS
COMPLETED REVELATION
IN GREEK...



700 YEARS AFTER
JOHN WYCLIFFE
TRANSLATED THE BIBLE
INTO ENGLISH...



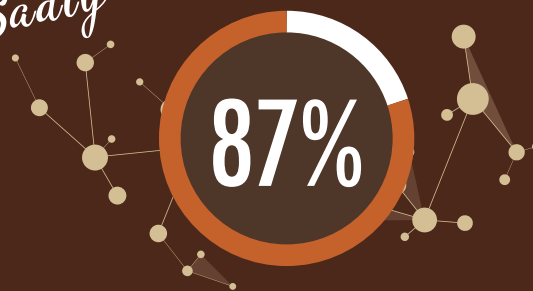
500 YEARS AFTER
MARTIN LUTHER
TRANSLATED THE BIBLE
INTO GERMAN...

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LANGUAGES HAVE
NEW TESTAMENTS.

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Pray now. IS BEING BILINGUAL ENOUGH?

The people of Pretty Water already had God's Word in the language of their country, and they were bilingual—at least that's what everyone said. So why would they need God's Word written in their heart language? This people group wasn't even convinced they needed it, at least not until during their meetings key members of their community began reading Scripture translated into their mother tongue.

"They are getting a taste of how much better God's Word

communicates in their own heart language, and this is spurring them on to learn to read in their own tongue!" wrote the Canadian missionary. "You can imagine the thrill this news has been to us who [have] laboured long hours, days, weeks, months and years to get God's love letter into their language and into their hands."

Pray for the people of Pretty Water as they learn to read in their mother tongue.



Photo by Dale Stroud



Photo by Haleigh Schaeffer, 2017 Church Planting Internship Participant

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Getting involved. HOW ONE CANADIAN CHURCH IS ENGAGED.

For decades, Huron Chapel Evangelical Missionary Church, a congregation of around 200 people in Auburn, Ontario, has invested heavily in finishing the Great Commission.

They have sent and supported—through prayers, finances and encouragement—career missionaries who serve in a variety of roles and countries.

Some members have used their career skills in nursing, education and the trades as skilled associates—serving for a couple of years overseas.

The church actively exposes its members to global missions by sending people on short-term mission trips, thus giving their people a glimpse into what it takes to make disciples, plant churches and see the Great Commission completed.

Continuing on with their history of exposing their people to the Great Commission, they sent recently another team to Papua New Guinea.

In February of this year, a team of nine spent three weeks on a mission trip. They helped with the practical needs of ministry, which included pouring a concrete floor in a building used for church gatherings. While their work is invaluable, this team and the church they came from gave so much more than just their sweat—they encouraged the missionaries who are living in Papua New Guinea. And those on the team were blessed beyond measure and encouraged in their own faith journey as they were exposed to what God is doing all around the world to finish the Great Commission.

What about your church? It's been 2000 years since Jesus gave the Great Commission. Take a trip and see what it takes to establish a thriving church for every people.

Visit ethnos.ca/mission-trips to see a list of mission trip options.



Pray now. WHEN THE ANSWER IS 'NOT NOW'

Imagine working for years toward the goal of bringing truth to a specific people group. You've completed specialized training, moved to another country, learned the language of that country and assessed where the needs are the greatest, and now you're ready to move into the village. And that is when the news comes: Due to security concerns, you've been asked not to move in at this time. Take a moment to let that sink in.

"This was the reality of the family we were visiting," wrote Joel and Andi McMartin. "We had planned a while

ago to visit this family, but originally the visit was to help them as they transitioned to the village and began learning language. Now the focus of our trip shifted. ... We were visiting them because it was a time of grieving, and we didn't want them to be alone. ... [We wanted] to help them think through what was next while they waited for the green light to go into the village."

Pray for missionaries facing difficult decisions in our less-than-secure world.

CONNECT WITH *Canadian missionaries!*



WESLEY AND TENLEY JANK **Ransom, Judah, Zion and Eden**

Ministry: Communications Team at
Ethnos Canada, Durham, Ontario

Sent by Temple Baptist Church, Sarnia, Ontario

Connect with Wesley and Tenley at
ethnos.ca/wesley-and-tenley-jank

We are Wesley and Tenley Jank. Married in 2009, we've been members of Ethnos Canada for nearly as long.

I (Wesley) grew up in the South American rainforest, among a remote people group called the Yanomami.

Tenley grew up in the concrete jungles of Seattle, Washington. She loved doing hair for runway shows and working in a boutique salon downtown.

In 2007, jungle boy met city girl at a little Bible college in small-town Michigan—Ethnos360 Bible Institute.

For two years we sat under the teaching of God's Word, drank strong coffee and became best friends.

We were married in 2009 and three weeks later were enrolled into

a two year program for cross-cultural church planters in Durham, Ontario.

During our adventures together, God has given us four children and taken us to Paraguay, South America, where it was our ambition to be church planters among one of the many people groups of the Chaco region of Paraguay.

During our time in Paraguay, I noticed that one of my sons wasn't hitting a lot of the his milestones for speech. After living in Paraguay for four years, we returned to Canada to get help for our two-year-old son who wasn't yet talking.

We found a speech therapist and he was diagnosed with Childhood Apraxia of Speech. This is a neurological speech disorder. There is no cure for it and it's something he will have his entire life. With proper

treatment at a young age, it can be helped.

We have decided to put off our return to Paraguay while we receive help for our son. During this time, I am working with the Communications Team for Ethnos Canada.

God has wired every one of us to be on His Great Commission team. If you, or someone you know, has a child that struggles with delayed learning, it doesn't disqualify you from joining the Ethnos team. To see a thriving church established for every tribe, tongue and nation/ethnos, it takes a diverse team of people.

Visit ethnos.ca/go to find your place.

Too Moved to Move

The Akolet people sat stunned after hearing about the ten plagues in Egypt. The God of the Bible had shown Himself more powerful than all the Egyptian gods! The Nile god couldn't keep the river from turning to blood. The sacred bull god couldn't protect their cattle from dying. The magic healing god couldn't save the Egyptians from boils. And the sun god couldn't make the darkness go away.

As the Akolet people silently absorbed the truth, realization

dawned. The spirits they had feared and worshiped for generations didn't have any power either! A water spirit couldn't sink their canoe just because a woman is wearing red. And another spirit couldn't send a storm just because someone spoke the Akolet language while traveling downriver.

"We've believed in these spirits because that's what we were told was the truth," one lady said. "But it is not the truth. Satan has been feeding us lies!"

In people groups around the world, when the veil is finally ripped away and truth dissipates the deceptions, reactions can be wide and varied. But all are welcome.

"However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13a).

Some groups, normally very subdued in their emotions, will suddenly jump up and start dancing for joy. Others, like the Akolet women, will announce, "I believe!" or "It is true!" and begin giving testimony of what they believe and why. Still other groups will just sit silently, tears streaming down their faces—too moved to move. And sometimes, fires will burn late into the night as people huddle around, rehearsing the Bible stories aloud and shaking their heads in wonderment at the great and powerful God they have come to know. Sleep? Who can sleep now?

And some will even have the courage to do things they've never done before. Like the man who went off into the jungle by himself.

The villagers had been taught since childhood that it was dangerous, even for grown men, to enter the jungle alone. The spirits lingered there. The spirits could kill. But this new believer dared to believe that God was stronger than the spirits. He dared to trust God. So he went into the jungle alone—and returned unharmed.

And his world would never be as small and fearful again.

When truth suddenly bursts into your life, how do you react or respond? Do you dance for joy? Share it? Weep? Shake your head in wonderment? Step out in faith and do something new?

There isn't one right response—as long as there is one.

—Debbie Burgett, Staff Writer



Praise! MENYA BAPTISMS

In September we shared the celebratory story of the Menya people becoming our brothers and sisters in Christ. But their story is not over. Evangelism was just the beginning. Discipleship is ongoing. And the result of discipleship is evidenced by the first Menya baptism that took place in October. Praise God with us as you read these testimonies of changed lives.

"I was living under sin, Satan and death. Only through the work of Jesus—His blood that was spilled on the cross. He set me free, and now I am alive with Him. Now Jesus is my King."—Wati

"God sent His only Son to the earth. He spilled His great blood. He took away my sin."—Neti

"Sin enslaved my body, speech and thoughts. By God's grace, He sent Jesus Christ. He took all my sin as if it were His. Through Jesus, I am pure in God's eyes."—Zabet



Watch "Cross Day" at
ethnos.ca/cross-day



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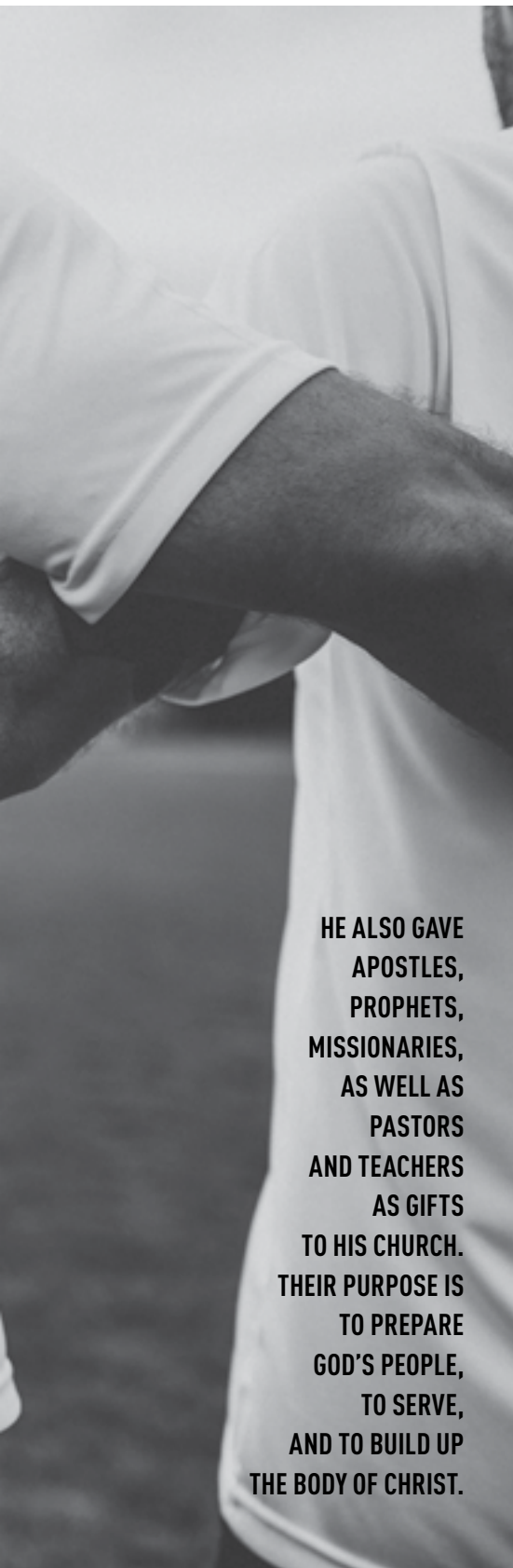
- *LEARN* how God is completing the Great Commission.
- *EXPERIENCE* the challenges of ministering in a foreign culture.
- *DISCOVER* the team necessary to reach isolated people groups.
- *GAIN* the focus you need to live a life of eternal impact.

ETHNOS.CA/OTG



What are they doing on this team?

The way you view the relationship
between missionaries and the church might not be biblical.



**HE ALSO GAVE
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AS WELL AS
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AND TO BUILD UP
THE BODY OF CHRIST.**

I find the way the *God's Word* translation renders Ephesians 4:11-12 at once surprising and appropriate:

He also gave apostles, prophets, missionaries, as well as pastors and teachers as gifts to His church. Their purpose is to prepare God's people, to serve, and to build up the body of Christ.

It's not surprising to see *missionaries* in the Bible, though most translations use the word *evangelists*. *Evangelists* is not really a translation but a transliteration—that is, translators rendered the Greek word *euangelistos* as *evangelists*, instead of translating the word that means *one who spreads the Good News* as *missionary*.

No, what's surprising is to see God speak through Paul's writing of missionaries as part of the church—as teammates with pastors and teachers in preparing God's people, serving and building up the body.

Pastors? Sure, that makes sense. This past Sunday our pastor did a great job (again) of breaking down how we move forward in God's strength, and I'm looking forward to more of his series. His role in building up the body is clear, and I certainly see him as a gift from God.

Teachers? Last month I was teaching at church, and each week at least one person thanked me and told me how much they valued the lesson. It's so normal that I'd say the church sees teachers as gifts and recognizes their role in building up the body.

But missionaries?

Doesn't it seem strange to say missionaries are teammates with pastors and teachers to prepare

God's people and build up the body?

If that does sound strange to you, don't feel bad. I'm a missionary, and it sounds strange to me.

Yet, it's completely appropriate. It's what Ephesians 4:11-12 says. And throughout the New Testament, we see missionaries relating to local churches: sent out from churches, sustained by churches, reporting back to churches, encouraging churches—even exhorting and rebuking churches.

The New Testament never treats missionaries like outsiders to the church. It always treats them as integral to the church. It would not have been jarring for first century believers to read Paul's writing about missionaries in virtually the same stroke of the pen with which he writes about pastors and teachers.

So, let's treat missionaries like part of the team that prepares God's people and builds up the body, and maybe we begin by treating them like part of the church.

That's why I suggested to a woman who is involved in writing a missions policy for her church that she involve missionaries in that process. If they're part of the church, that's a no-brainer. But it sounds strange if we think of missionaries as outsiders.

What else can you do to promote the biblical concept that missionaries are part and parcel of the local church, gifts given to the church to build up the body?

I can't help but think that all of us will learn and grow and be blessed if we foster biblical relationships between missionaries and churches.

—*Ian Fallis, Editor*

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