

The Gospel Presented —Page 2

Using Software to Expedite Ministry —Page 14

There Once Was ... —Page 20

A THRIVING CHURCH FOR EVERY PEOPLE

ETHNOS 360

MAGAZINE



Who are the
unreached
of the world? Page 4

ETHNOS360 BIBLE INSTITUTE

WHERE BIBLE EDUCATION AND MISSIONS ARE ONE

Study the whole Bible in two years
with an emphasis on cross-cultural missions.

PREPARE FOR LIFE AND MINISTRY.

1.800.555.6824

e360bible.org

ETHNOS360 magazine

(ISSN 1527-9057)
Vol. 84 | Issue 1, 2021
#020047

Ethnos360 magazine team

Editor: Rosie Cochran
Managing Editor: Bruce Enemark
Rex Crawford, Macon Hare, Chris Holland, Emily Kopf, Stephen Narwold, David Pierce and Jen Rabe

Ethnos360 magazine is published by Ethnos360.
Periodical postage paid at MID-FL, FL
32799-9625
Postmaster: Please send address changes to
Ethnos360 magazine, Ethnos360, 312 W. First St.,
Sanford, FL 32771-1231

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture taken from the
New King James Version, copyright 1982, by Thomas
Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Subscriptions

The *Ethnos360* magazine is provided free to readers
in the USA on a year-to-year basis. To receive the
magazine or have it sent to a friend, sign up online at
go.ethnos360.org/magazine-subscribe,
email ethnos360@ntm.org, or call 407-323-3430.

If you no longer wish to receive *Ethnos360* magazine,
please send a note and your name and address to
Ethnos360 magazine, 312 W. First St., Sanford, FL
32771-1231.

The magazine may be read online at
ethnos360.org/magazine.

Requests to reprint articles should be directed to
Editor Rosie Cochran at rosie_cochran@ntm.org.

© Ethnos360 March 2021 *Contents of this magazine
may not be reproduced in whole or in part unless
expressly authorized in writing.*

Ethnos360 partners worldwide
Canada 519-369-2622
Australia 011-61-2-6559-8646
Europe 011-44-1472-387700



Cover photo by Dale Stroud



FROM OUR CEO

Dear Friend,

The fact that you read the *Ethnos360* magazine shows that you have a heart for reaching the unreached. Thank you! It takes *all* of us to engage in reaching unreached people groups for Christ. Truly the days are quickly approaching when Christ will come back for His Bride, the Church.

While we have previously featured many of the specifics of the church planting ministry, in the 2021 issues we will take a macro view of where *Ethnos360* works as part of an international global partner network. In the first issue we'll answer the questions, "Who are the unreached?" and "How do we determine where to place ministry teams?" We'll present where we work and what, by God's grace, He has accomplished through the network of global partners and what needs to be done yet in those regions.

Following that we'll examine how ministry contexts are rapidly changing around the world and how, even though many of these ministry contexts are quite different from our historical contexts, *Ethnos360* and the network of global partners are adapting to these contexts while maintaining the same purpose and objectives.

The last issue is particularly an exciting one for me since we'll share who the global ministry team is and how the make-up of this team has moved from a Western-centric team to very much a global one.

Be encouraged and excited with us as we see how and where Christ *is* building His Church.

Yours in Christ,

Larry M. Brown, Ethnos360 CEO

NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

THE GOSPEL PRESENTED

The following three people groups are all in Papua New Guinea.

The **Wantakia** people have recently heard the Creation story and are beginning to hear the story of the Fall. They have already expressed that what they are hearing is clear teaching, unlike anything else they've heard before. The women were astounded that God created Eve with inherent value, not just the value her family could get from a bride price. They learned that God created the angels good, which was big for them to think about, because so much of their lives are impacted by fear of spirits. Three Wantakia men have come to believe in Jesus as a result of helping the team translate the Bible lessons!

The **Amdu** teaching began a few months ago and is going well. Here is a report from the team: *We have full confidence that the Lord's plan here among the Amdu people has not been and will not be thwarted. While facing many obstacles and challenges, our team is also experiencing the joy of teaching our friends God's Truth in their own language and watching them understand what they are hearing and yearn for more. Many of them have heard bits and pieces of the Bible over the years in the trade language, but never with a strong, clear foundation and never as one story pointing to the coming Redeemer.*

The **Pei** church has been born! Through clear chronological Bible teaching, they heard that they are sinners, that Jesus died for them and that trusting Him is the only way to be saved. Some heard, understood, and put their trust in Christ. They are already asking questions about how the gospel should affect how they raise their children and are saying that this teaching is really "shooting their thinking" (convicting them). They know they are part of God's family and are learning about what that looks like and are talking about what their destiny as God's family is.

CULTURE CORNER

What is tereré?

In Paraguay, *tereré* is a national beverage. The name *tereré* originates from Guaraní, an indigenous language and one of the two official

languages in Paraguay, the other being Spanish.

Tereré is basically a tea of *yerba maté*, which is made from the smoked leaves and twigs of a tree grown in South America. *Yerba maté* was initially utilized and cultivated by the Guaraní people.

Tereré is almost always made with ice-cold water held in a thermos or pitcher and poured into a special cup. That cup, called a *guampa*, is traditionally made of a hollowed-out cow horn but can also be made of carved wood and metal. The *yerba maté*, or *yerba*, fills this *guampa*. A metal straw, called a *bombilla*, is used to drink the *tereré*. It has a filter at its base so you won't swallow the leaves and twigs, nor will they get stuck in the straw.

Tereré has been declared Paraguay's national drink, and the last Saturday

in February is the celebration of *Día Nacional del Tereré* (the National Day of *Tereré*). It is so popular that there are more than 20 different brands sold in the stores with many of the brands having 10 or more different flavors.

Wherever you go in this world, you can always recognize a Paraguayan because they so often carry their *tereré* accoutrements with them! This practice, so foreign from any found in the USA, is part of Paraguay's culture. It's about friendship and community. In preparing *tereré*, drinking *tereré* or conversing about *tereré*, it quickly becomes clear that each offer of a sip, each refilling of a *guampa*, opens a door, an invitation into relationship, respect, friendship. Take a sip and pass it on.

—Steve and Monica Gutzmer,
Asunción, Paraguay





STUDENTS IN TRAINING

With life being turned upside down with the pandemic, many wonder what training for overseas, cross-cultural missions will be like. We are pleased to give you the following report concerning Ethnos360's training.

First Year with Merged Campuses

When the lockdown eased, the staff from Michigan migrated to Wisconsin to set up their households in a new city. The logistics for the consolidation were daunting, yet God gave the grace and strength to see it through. As the first year as a consolidated institute comes to a close, they have 171 students, 94 of whom will be graduating this spring.

Ethnos360 Training in Missouri

Meanwhile, at the Ethnos360 Training, six students in the linguistics class and five in the tech specialist course graduated in December 2020. In the regular courses, there are 56 in their second semester, and 31 in their fourth semester will be graduating in April 2021.



MAKE IT CLEAR

Richard and Wendy minister in the Southeast Asia Mainland area. As Richard prepares Bible lessons, he reminds us of how important clear understanding of another language is. Here is one of his dilemmas.

Genesis 1:2b “And the Spirit of God moved ...” which translates to “*Pakacha a wi la tou we wong sa...*”

“Wait,” said Richard’s [language] helper, “do you mean *wi la* (spirit) or *wi nyong* (spirit)? Because they are different. Every person has a total of 23 *wi la* and *wi nyong*. When your *wi la* leaves your body, it makes you sick. That is why we tie wrists: to keep the *wi la* from leaving. But when you dream, it is your *wi nyong* traveling to the places you see and doing the things you dream. So if this is God’s *wi la* out moving over the water, God would be sick.”

Pray for the translators and Bible teachers as they grapple with issues like this in order to have a clear, understandable Bible translation.



USE YOUR CAREER SKILLS AT THE HOMES OF ETHNOS360

So, you don’t sense the Lord leading you to an overseas location, but you are wondering if there is still a tangible way that you can assist the global church planting effort. Have you ever considered serving either on a full-time or part-time basis at our 40-acre retirement complex in Florida? The Homes of Ethnos360 was built to care for those who have given their lives in service to others and currently has 73 units (couples or singles) living in duplex apartments, 11 units in independent rooms and nine units in our registered Assisted Living Facility.

Consider using your skills at The Homes of Ethnos360 as a(n):

- Director of Grounds
- Food Service Director
- Maintenance Person
- Housekeeper
- Electrician
- Carpenter
- Plumber
- Mechanic
- Landscaper

Volunteers can serve on a permanent or temporary basis. **Go to go.ethnos360.org/volunteerHomes** to see how you can volunteer. Or call **407-330-1505**. 



BANWAON TRANSLATION UPDATE

Albert and Lynne Castelijn minister among the Banwaon in the Philippines. Great news! Once Albert finishes the book of Mark, he only has two more books to translate—the Gospels of Matthew and John—in order to have a complete New Testament for the Banwaon church.



THE EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

The Education Resource Center (ERC), formerly known as MK Care and Education, provides resources, services and training related to education for missionaries who are in training, are overseas or are on home assignment. Located at Ethnos360 Training in Missouri, the ERC offers homechooling workshops, Missionary Kid Orientation, homeschool materials, diagnostic tools, consultant training for teachers, learning differences awareness and classes on learning styles and education options for families. Their goal is to educate and equip families by providing them with the tools they need to make wise education decisions for their children.

“There is nothing we can do on our own to be acceptable to God!”

— Opa, A new Amdu believer



Who are the unreached of the world?

Why do Ethnos360 missionaries go to specific people groups to tell them about the God of the Bible and yet not to others? What or who determines where Ethnos360 will send missionaries?

What is a *people group*?

To answer that, we need to get a few definitions cleared up so that we are all on the same page. The first one is *people group*.

A *people group* is an ethnolinguistic group. That means a group of individuals, families or clans who share a common language and ethnic self-identity.

This definition comes as a result of research that uses linguistic features as a primary identification. It also recognizes that there could be some dialectal differences within the language. We would also consider some additional factors (beyond just language difference) which are considered significant barriers to the gospel message getting into the group with clear understanding. Some of these include deafness, political barriers and significant cultural differences.

Using this approach there are around 11,000 total people groups with more than 6,500 usually listed in various categories of unreached.

Who are the *unreached*?

And that brings us to another term that we need to define: *unreached*.

We define *unreached people groups* as people groups without adequate access to clear, culturally relevant teaching of the gospel in the language they know best (their heart language). It also

includes groups that, once hearing the gospel, are without ample opportunity, as a body of believers, to grow to maturity in their knowledge of Christ.

And the question could arise, “But since there are so many Bibles or radio stations or online sources of information about the gospel, why do we even need to consider the ‘unreached’? Can’t they ‘find’ what they need on their own?”

Those are good questions, but these are complex situations. There are so many places in the world where there are no Bibles, where there are no radio stations, where there is no access to the Internet nor is there the technical know-how to access it if there were. Besides these obstacles, as noted above, there are barriers of culture or tradition or politics that inhibit the access or understanding of the gospel.

Amazingly, it is not only in the dark jungles of Africa or the Amazon or the craggy mountains of Papua New Guinea where there are unreached people groups. They can be found in refugee camps, in the middle of huge cities and in rural areas. (Be on the lookout for the June issue in which we will give you even more information about the changing context of cross-cultural ministry.)

To be clear, an *unreached* people is not the same as a *biblically illiterate* people. Biblical illiteracy has increased around the world and even in our own country. Fewer and fewer people in the USA

have basic knowledge of the Scriptures. However, for most (but not all) in the USA, there are opportunities to hear the gospel—whether through a local church, radio, television or even downloading a free Bible in their native language. There are innumerable valuable ministry opportunities. But these are not the focus of Ethnos360. Ethnos360 focuses on *unreached people groups*.

I think the Apostle Paul had something of the same idea of going to the unreached people groups when he wrote to the Christians in Rome. In Romans 15:20-21, we find Paul saying, “And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man’s foundation, but as it is written: ‘To whom He was not announced, they shall see; and those who have not heard shall understand.’”

And toward that end, Ethnos360 works alongside global partners to continue this work: to allow

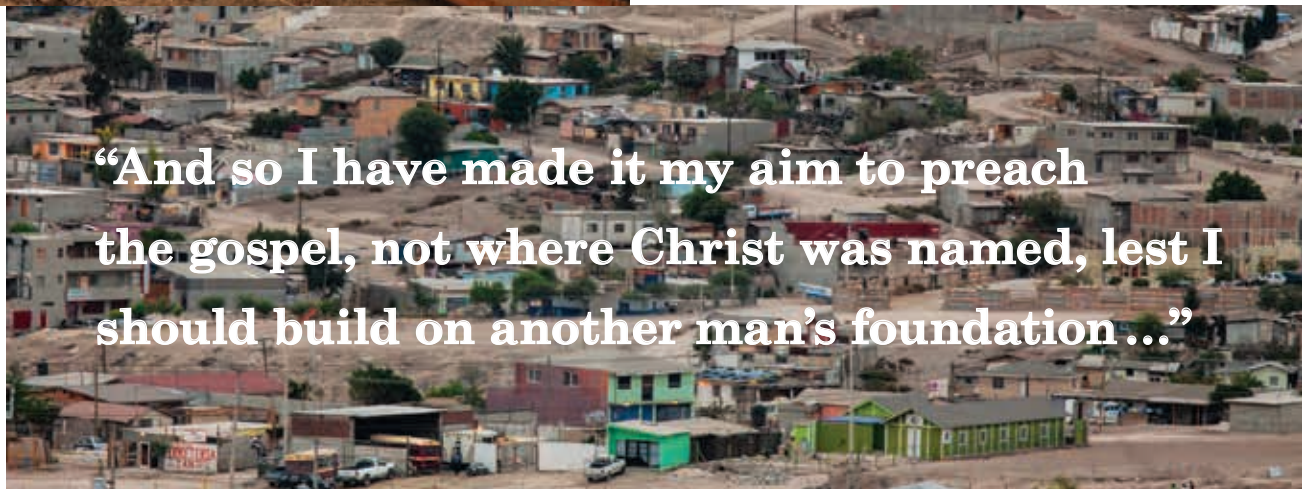
those who have never had that chance of knowing Christ to see Him and to understand what He has accomplished for them.

What is a people group assessment (PGA)?

And how does Ethnos360 decide where to send missionaries? Is it a flip-of-the-coin decision? No, indeed. The reason missionaries are sent is that the people group is unreached. To determine a group’s “unreachedness,” there is a very specific list of criteria that must be met. That list of criteria is called a people group assessment and is a time-consuming task. That gives us yet another term to define: *people group assessment* (formerly called *survey*) or PGA. This is the process of gathering information about ethnic people groups in order to help field leadership teams know how best to serve the Church in deciding where to place missionaries and in what capacities.

The three stages of PGA are pre-assessment (information collected before the survey), rapid assessment (an on-site overview of the people group) and comprehensive assessment (a more extensive on-site assessment). For more in-depth information on the three stages, see the sidebar.

Once the PGA has taken place and an unreached people group has been identified, what needs to take place? How do we go about planting a functioning church in a cross-cultural setting? Remember what Jesus said: “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matthew



“And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man’s foundation...”

Stages of People Group Assessment (PGA)

1) **Pre-Assessment:** This involves missionaries collecting information from books, articles and individuals who have had contact with the people group so that surveyors can write a clear overview of the people group, define a plan for survey and develop an annotated bibliography.

2) **Rapid Assessment:** Completed prior to having missionaries move in, surveyors gain an on-site overview of each of the PGA criteria that affect the decision to place personnel in a specific people group setting.

3) **Comprehensive Assessment:** In another pre-placement survey, surveyors more extensively examine the assessment criteria not adequately covered during Rapid Assessment.

The Three PGA Criteria

- **Ingroup Impact** considers the potential influence of any true believers who are part of the people group, and/or mature, growing churches within the boundaries of the people group.
- **Outgroup Impact** considers the likelihood of a mature church being established in the people group by another church or mission agency.
- **Language and Communication Factors** consider the many and varied issues relating to culture and language (stability, change, collapse, etc.) which influence how (through what cultural and language grid) the hearers will understand the message.
 - Are there measurable differences that distinguish the language from related languages in the area that will prevent or distort communication of the message between the two?
 - Are the people bilingual (proficient in a second language) enough that God's Word will be accessible to them in that second language?
 - What is the likelihood that the first language of the people group will continue to be used from generation to generation?



28:19, 20) This isn't a suggestion or even just an invitation; He used the command form. So, how is it accomplished in a setting that is so foreign to our culture and to our language?

—Bruce Enemark, *Managing Editor*

Once a people group assessment is completed and the determination is made that, yes, a specific people group truly is unreached, then the missionaries take the next step of seeking to see that *unreached people group become reached*.

The Kaje people group until recently were such an unreached people group. Praise God that they have now become reached. Here is their story ... so far.

The Missionaries Prepare for the Teaching

Taylor and Abby Goheen and Jon and Jen Myers, who serve through Ethnos360, began living with the Kaje in 2015 to plant a church among them. Christopher and Lilli Meyer, with Ethnos360 Germany, joined the church planting team in 2019.

It would take much preparation before they could begin teaching. Developing relationships, several years of studying culture and language, developing and teaching a literacy program, translating the Scriptures into the Kaje language and developing Bible teaching lessons all preceded the teaching itself.

As Taylor and Jon developed the Bible lessons with three Kaje men, they could see God working through His Word. “I can already sense the fight within them of having to decide whether or not they will hold on to what they are hearing,” observed Taylor.

Finally, the day came when teaching could begin.

A foundation of biblical truth was built layer upon layer, starting with Creation itself. Taught directly from the translated Scripture, the people learned where the sun, moon, stars, land, sea, animals and even where they themselves came from. It would take several layers of teaching before the Kaje were introduced to Christ in the New Testament.

Why would the missionaries need to go so far back to preach the gospel? And why would they need to teach four days a week for three and a half months? Couldn't they simply translate a gospel tract into Kaje? Wouldn't it suffice to tell them that they are sinners and must trust Jesus for their salvation? Even in our own culture, this approach has significant challenges. But to people of an animistic culture who previously had none of the Scripture in their own language, the barriers to comprehension would be exceedingly high. Think of the concepts that need to be unpacked: What is sin? Why is He the God above all others? What is justification? Who is Jesus and why do we need to trust Him? And salvation from what?

Taylor, emphasized the importance of laying the groundwork for teaching. “One of our goals in sharing the gospel here is that we do so in a way that will also lay a biblical foundation for the church to one day stand on.”

The People Prepare for the Teaching

“The Kaje people can hardly wait for the teaching to begin!” Christopher exclaimed. “So many times they've told us of their fears [of sorcery] and that they are completely hopeless and that only 'God's talk' will be able to change that.”

Demonstrating how important the Kaje believe the teaching to be, they prepared large amounts of sago (their main food) in advance for the time of teaching. This was not their normal way. The people tend to live day-to-day. And yet, they did this on their own initiative.

Additionally, they built a “sharing house” the month before the Bible teaching started. This temporary, open-air shelter of almost 3,400 square feet would shield them from the sun and rain during the teaching.

God's Character Manifested from the Beginning

After a few introductory lessons explaining that the Bible is God's message to all humanity and that it tells us what God is like, Taylor and Jon began teaching from Genesis 1.

God's power and love was on display as the people grasped that He created all things that exist.

The follow-up lesson—the creation of Eve and another regarding the two trees in the Garden of Eden—grabbed the listeners' attention. They had previously encountered bits and pieces of Scripture in another language and picked up a wrong understanding. Now they learned that, before the Fall, work was not toilsome. Nothing was bad—no sickness, no pain, no fighting.

Moses, a Kaje man, upon discovering the results of the first family's choice, had this to say: “I am so mad at Adam and Eve. If they were still alive, I would beat them up.”

Not surprisingly, “this is a very big and real deal for the Kaje,” Abby pointed out. “They work and toil daily for survival. They literally eat and live by the sweat of their brow. Nothing comes easily here in Kaje.



So many times they've told us of their fears and that they are completely hopeless and that only 'God's talk' will be able to change that.



“They are very eager to hear why things are different for us today. ... We are seeing God’s work in their hearts already!”

Estranged from God

As the missionary team continued laying foundations of truth from Genesis, the Kaje learned not only of the Curse but also of their estrangement from God. Francis’ concerns summarized what others were thinking. “Sin is in us, and we have a huge heavy with God because of our ancestors Adam and Eve.”

“We talked about how sin is right there just waiting to control you,” Abby continued. “It is not just this dormant thing that we do not have to worry about. No, it’s right outside your door, it’s hiding on the path that your feet will walk, it’s just waiting for the right opportunity to pounce.”

After the teaching that day, a distraught woman approached Abby; she was overcome with worry and grief because of her sinfulness. Abby told her to “hang on and keep listening because this is not the end!”

Excitement grew among the Kaje and the missionaries. Abby voiced, “My heart is bursting with excitement for her and all the Kaje to know that Jesus has paid the price for their sins, that sin does not need to control them and that in Him they can be cleansed and made righteous.”

Like the People in Noah’s Day

The missionaries taught about sin multiplying

in the world. They recounted from the Scriptures how Cain tried to hide his sin. Lamech boasted about his sin. And the people of Noah’s generation thought of nothing but evil. The Kaje continued to recognize their sinfulness and their need for a Savior. Some even said that they were just like those of Noah’s day.

“The Kaje also heard that there is a road for their salvation. Not lots of different roads, but one,” Abby said. “They were challenged again with, ‘Are you going to be like Noah and listen to God, or are you going to go your own way?’”

The weight of their sin was driving them to their Savior. A Kaje man named Ananias declared, “God saved Noah all the way. I cannot wait until I hear how God is going to save me all the way.”

Similarly, Cecilia, a Kaje woman, stated, “I am going to be like Noah and do whatever God says. I will not be like the people who did not get in the boat.”

In addition to God’s Word showing their sinfulness and leading to their contrition, they also saw God’s power manifested. “God alone sends and calls off the rain,” Abby said. “Here in Kaje there are men who ‘call’ the rain [through spirits], so this truth was a very hard thing for some to hear. Yet all the responses we heard today were spoken from humble hearts.”

Hints of a Future Redeemer

God promised to bless all the nations through Abraham, including the Kaje people. Taylor



“I have so much sin. What am I going to do?”



explained that, through a descendent of Abraham, God was going to take care of the sin that had enslaved the Kaje.

The message was getting through. “As Taylor was reading these things, I saw a man nodding his head ... with a big smile on his face and silently clapping his hands together,” said Abby. “I can’t help but think that [he] has truly felt the weight of his sin and that he cannot wait to be free from it. I also do not doubt that he is the not the only one feeling this excitement at this glimpse of hope.”

In the Wilderness

Lessons continued from Abraham and Isaac, through Jacob and Esau, to Joseph and then on to Moses. The teaching emphasized to the Kaje, first, that God does help His people, not because they deserve His help but because of His great love for them; and second, that God’s character never changes. He is faithful.

The missionaries specifically requested prayer “that the Kaje people will see God’s love for them and that He doesn’t love us because we are good. He loves us because we are His.”

Like a Beautiful Tapestry

“God’s story of redemption is like a beautiful tapestry woven together with so many intricate pieces of thread, making up one large, beautiful piece,” Abby said. “Without those individual details, that picture would not be complete. The stories throughout the Old Testament are just like those pieces of thread, weaving together to present a beautiful picture of God’s love for mankind. Without these stories, the picture would not be complete or as meaningful. As much as we want to hurry up and teach the people about Jesus, we don’t want to give them a picture that is incomplete or hard to see. We want them to see the full picture of God’s amazing love for them.”

Continuing to the New Testament

The many weeks of teaching so far had all been in the Old Testament, laying a foundation for the coming Redeemer. After a brief explanation to give the Kaje some background on Jerusalem as well as the Pharisees and the Sadducees during the time of the New Testament, the missionaries introduced the coming of John the Baptist and Jesus. “These are just two of the promises that God has fulfilled,” Abby said. The missionaries asked for prayer that the Kaje would see God’s faithfulness in how He always follows through with His Word.

**There must
have been
so much joy
in Heaven...**



Regarding the birth of Jesus, the Magi's worship of him and King Herod's desire to kill him, Abby commented, "One of the main points... is that Jesus didn't only come to save us from our sins, but He came to be our King." Each day the Kaje's understanding of their Savior grew.

“Behold, the Lamb of God.”

The lesson about Jesus' baptism overflowed with significance. As the Kaje understood John's words declaring Jesus to be "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world," the threads of teaching from the Old Testament merged seamlessly with the added threads of the New. Anticipation continued to grow in the hearts of both the Kaje and the missionaries. Abby said, "Each teaching day, the Kaje are learning more and more of who their Savior is. There is no greater joy than seeing this unfold right before our eyes!"

Our Savior's Power

The teaching crescendoed as the Kaje learned of Jesus' authority over sickness, storms, spirits and sin—traditionally all things they feared. With the lesson of Lazarus, they saw that Jesus has power over death itself, which, until this point, the Kaje had faced without hope.

The Kaje learned that Christ is "the way, the truth and the life" (John 14:6) and the only way to come to God.

A Church Is Born

The Kaje are no longer *unreached*. They as a people group have heard and understood the message of redemption.

"There must have been so much joy in Heaven during these last couple of months. But even if the people have now heard the gospel, [God's work among them] isn't finished yet," said Lilli Meyer. Though the marathon of initial teaching is over, the missionaries will continue to translate and teach the Scriptures to the Kaje. Discipleship will continue, and leadership will be developed among the people. And Lord willing, the Kaje will bring the glorious Good News to other peoples around them.



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

Study the Bible like the Kaje people did with Firm Foundations.

This proven, biblical approach leads you through the Scriptures chronologically, building layer upon layer. It is used by Ethnos360 missionaries around the world. What better way to teach people in our own country in these days of increasing biblical illiteracy!

From March through June 2021, Ethnos360 is making the *Firm Foundations: Creation to Christ* adult teaching set available as a **free download**. Visit Ethnos360's online bookstore at:

biblestudy.ethnos360.org and use discount code **teach**

Using Software to Expedite Ministry

Culture and Language Acquisition

Ethnos360 missionaries working with global partners around the world are committed to obeying the Great Commission by planting thriving churches among every people group. To accomplish this goal, they need a high level of proficiency in the language of the people among whom they minister. Before they begin Bible lessons, teaching and discipleship, they need to understand the beliefs, values and worldview of their audience. To avoid syncretism, the missionaries must be able to anticipate how their hearers might misunderstand the message. Only then can they proactively address each of those potential misunderstandings as they present God's truth.

Because most cross-cultural missionaries need to learn an unwritten language, Culture and Language Acquisition (CLA) is a completely do-it-yourself task. To reach that goal in an unwritten language takes an average of three years of patient effort, following the four stages of CLA from simple words and phrases to sentences to simple stories to extended discourse with the ability to captivate an audience and tell stories and preach in a way that has powerful impact.

New Software and New Releases

A global team of our most experienced culture and language learning coaches are currently revising and updating the CLA program to make it even more helpful to missionaries. And they are developing a mobile app for cell phones and other devices that will sync with the missionary's computer, facilitating the complicated tasks of CLA: taking



The cost of this project is \$417,000. The amount still needed is **\$237,510**.

If you would like to help see this project reach its goal,

go to: ethnos360.org/projects/cla-software !)))

photos and video, recording audio and documenting speech patterns and behavior. This will help missionaries plan and schedule their CLA activities, including review, and make it easier to sort through several years' worth of information to search for insights to the people group's beliefs and values. They just received an incremental mobile release from the app developers, and they hope to get an update of the desktop app by the time this is printed. Progress is encouraging as they keep adding features.

The new CLA program and the mobile app will now be

a part of the new distance training for national church planters throughout Asia. These missionaries are working in countries that would be closed to foreign missionaries. They will receive training through online courses, including courses where we will train them to do CLA and to use the app to facilitate that.

—Bill Davis
International Language
and Linguistics Consultant
CLA Development Coordinator
Global Partners

Pray. MOBILIZING A TEAM

Looking for a way to make sure your missionary is taken care of and can focus on the work you have sent them out for? One way is to help fill all the support roles that go into making sure your missionary can do their job well! Maybe you've never thought about advertising job openings on behalf of your missionary, but when

there are gaps in the support roles providing for them on the field, it makes it harder for them to do their work. As we've all had to take a break from "normal," you or someone you know might be ready to consider taking a step in a different direction. As many re-evaluate the investments they're making in life, they may

awaken to a desire to invest their lives in what God is doing around the world in missions. Spreading the word within your church and personal networks may very well be just what someone needs to realize that God has a role for them on the mission field. Make this a matter of prayer as we "go and make disciples."

Help Fill the Gaps: Consider how your skills could be used in the following roles.

- Director of The Homes of Ethnos360 (USA) • Writer/Editor (USA) • Elementary School Teachers
- High School Teachers • Accountant/Finance Office Personnel • Pilots (Helicopter and Airplane)
- Aviation Mechanic • IT (USA and Overseas) • Nurses (USA and Overseas) • Construction/Maintenance



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 indigenous people in Papua New Guinea.

INTERFACE

A six-week college-level course in Papua New Guinea.
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.
ethnos360.org/internships

CHURCH PLANTING INTERNSHIPS

Spend a semester in Papua New Guinea experiencing cross-cultural church planting firsthand.
ethnos360.org/church-planting-internships

short-term@ntm.org !)))

Praise. **YOUR WORD IS MY SOURCE OF HOPE!**

This article comes from Carolyn Crockett. She and Steve, her husband, minister among the Moi people of the Asia-Pacific Region.

There's a baby here named DabuMina/WednesdayTalk. Interesting name, yes, but the mom named him that after the day of the week that the ladies gather in their own individual hamlets and read God's Word, pray and sing together. In a culture where women are considered possessions and often treated

cruelly, the Moi women in general have become passionate about God's Word. I love taking turns going between the hamlets and participating in their discussions of God's Word. As we sit around in their smokey huts, I often find myself gazing at different women, floored by their love and understanding of God's Word, and in spite of such poor, simple living conditions, they exude joy in the Lord! They do see the Lord and His Word as their source of hope.

"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)."

—by *Iyodotabo*



Bring your youth group to *Wayumi Expedition* in central Pennsylvania.

LEARN of the need to reach the still-unreached peoples of the world.

GAIN a bird's-eye view of what God is doing in the world.

EXPERIENCE the challenges of ministering in a foreign culture.

DISCOVER the team necessary to reach isolated people groups.

ALL WHILE HAVING
A GREAT TIME!

WAYUMI.COM !!!

Your Purchases Total a Big Gift!



The gift through Amazon Smile was enough to translate four books of the New Testament.

Over the past year, our shopping partners contributed more than \$5,700 to Ethnos360.

These partners designated Ethnos360 as the charity to benefit when they purchased products on Amazon. In just one year, purchases eligible for Amazon Smile donations resulted in a combined donation of \$5,724.44 from Amazon to Ethnos360.

That's enough funding to translate more than 163 Bible verses — the equivalent of the first nine chapters of the book of Revelation OR the complete book of Ephesians (with enough left over for eight

more verses) OR all of I, II and III John. Or it could sponsor about 11 hours of flight time, allowing missionaries to travel to their ministry location or get supplies in a remote location.

To date, partners shopping through Amazon Smile have made it possible for Ethnos360 to receive more than \$19,000 in donations from Amazon.

So if you're using Amazon Smile to help Ethnos360, thanks!

If you're not, it's easy and free to start.

Go to go.ethnos360.org/9Nj



LIFELONG INCOME ... ETERNAL INVESTMENT

A Gift Annuity pays eternal dividends ...

How can you combine effective stewardship with sensible tax planning to generate a lifetime of income for yourself—and help plant churches among people groups in partnership with Ethnos360? Simply invest in an Ethnos360 Charitable Gift Annuity.

Ethnos360 partners with InFaith Community Foundation to make gift annuities available for friends like you. When you give a gift annuity (minimum investment is \$10,000), InFaith

makes a fixed payment to you (or you and your spouse) every year until your death. The balance then provides help to reach people groups throughout the world through Ethnos360's ministries. Gift annuities are the perfect way to make a substantial impact on people's lives while investing in your own financial security!

There are many ways you can make a difference in people's lives through planned or creative giving. Ethnos360 can help you understand the options available to you. Please don't hesitate to

call if you have questions or if we can assist you to make decisions that will help you be the best steward of the resources God has entrusted to you.

To receive detailed information about gift annuities or to inquire about other planned giving options, please contact us.

Ethnos360 Special Services

Special-services_hq@ntm.org

407-547-2406

312 W. 1st Street

Sanford, FL 32771-1231

ethnos360.org/give



CONNECT WITH *new missionaries!*

JONATHAN AND DEVON AMES

ISAAC, JACKSON, LEAH,
CARTER AND SELAH

Ministry in Country:
Church Planting in Papua New Guinea

Sending Church:
Grace Community Church,
Pensacola, Florida



Connect with Jonathan and Devon at ethnos360.org/missionaries/jonathan-devon-ames

Jonathan grew up in Africa, where his parents served with Ethnos360. After returning to the USA toward the end of high school, he studied at Ethnos360 Bible Institute for one year. “God used this time to allow me to question things very deeply, and I sort of hit rock bottom spiritually.” For a time, Jonathan turned away from the Faith. Fast forward—college, marriage, Marines and a fast-track management opportunity where he was asked to move to a different plant location to become the manager.

When Devon was young, God used circumstances in her parents’ lives to bring them to the end of themselves and to draw them to Him. She also became a believer at this time and attributes her

parents’ example as impacting her own life. After her father retired from the Navy when she was in grade school, her parents served as missionaries in South Africa for two years.

Along the way, God faithfully worked in Jonathan’s and Devon’s lives. They were growing in their faith. And “during the months and years preceding our move toward missions, God was beginning to help us question the eternal value of what we were doing with our lives,” Jonathan said. “I guess I knew too well (due to my upbringing in missions and having three sisters in missions) about unreached people groups and the great needs that exist. Life is a vapor, but eternity and souls are forever.

“Two years [after Jonathan was asked to become plant manager], we ended up selling our house, quitting my job and landing again at Bible school.” This was 14 years after Jonathan’s first year of Bible school. God mightily used their time at Ethnos360 Bible Institute and Missionary Training Center in their lives. They said of that time, “It’s been a real privilege to further align our thinking, beliefs and life goals with biblical truth.”

By God’s grace, they are “ready to launch.” At this writing they are orientating in Papua New Guinea and looking forward to helping establish mature churches among unreached people groups there.



MICHAEL AND MORGAN LEBLANC

AND SON NASH

Ministry in Country:
Church Planting in Papua New Guinea

Sending Church:
Chino Valley Community Church,
Chino Hills, California

Michael grew up going to church. But it wasn't until high school when Michael went on a missions trip to Jamaica and was discipled by a good friend that, he says, "I really understood what it meant to follow Christ and began to trust in Him."

Morgan, too, grew up in church. When people would ask when she'd become a Christian, confused, she would reply, "Well, my whole life, I guess. ... I grew up in the church." Then she began to dig. She said, "I was frustrated with the gap between what I had believed about following Jesus compared to what Jesus says about following Him." Finally, she came to a clear understanding of the gospel and the person of Jesus Christ.

Throughout Michael and Morgan's dating relationship, they served overseas together multiple

times. Near the end of one of those trips, they found themselves spending a lot of time in conversation and prayer about what the next steps might look like, both vocationally and relationally. After much thought, they applied and were accepted into a three-month Church Planting Internship with Ethnos360 in Papua New Guinea in the fall of 2014.

What began as a vision trip led to the Lord making it clear to them that serving in Papua New Guinea as church planters was what He was calling them to. They both graduated from undergraduate studies in the spring of 2016 (Michael from Biola University and Morgan from California Baptist University), got married that July, and finished two years of Ethnos360's missionary training program in 2019.

The LeBlancs moved to Papua New Guinea in January 2020 in order to work among an unreached people group. They believe God desires for people from every tribe, tongue and nation to hear and read His Word in their own language. "Our passion is to play a small role in God's global mission to reach all people for His glory."

Connect with the LaBlancs at ethnos360.org/missionaries/michael-and-morgan-leblanc

Coffee for Thriving Churches



Ethnos360 has teamed up with Twin Valley Coffee to help missionaries all over the world and to provide great coffee at the same time.

Twin Valley Coffee's mission statement is held as the uncompromising standard: *Excellence Beyond The Cup!*™ Their website states: "After you've had your first cup of Twin Valley Coffee, you will be 'ruined for the ordinary.'"

Buy coffee from this website, designate the missionary you wish to benefit, and they will receive the profit. For example, if you purchase a 12 oz. bag, the missionary you designated will receive \$2.06.

Available in single-serve cups, fresh grounds, whole bean and frac pacs.

Learn more at: CoffeeForThrivingChurches.com



There once was...



A lost sheep, a lost coin and a lost son.

If you are familiar with this text, your mind is probably already running to the images that these stories conjure up. Perhaps you are picturing the shepherd roaming the mountainside at night or the woman painstakingly sweeping every cranny of her kitchen or the heartbroken father looking down a long road, waiting for a glimpse of his son.

Christ isn't telling this story for the sake of sheep, coins or kids. This is about people, lost people, whom He loves dearly.

Perhaps, at one time, this story was about you. You were that lost person that God relentlessly pursued. The angels may even still remember the celebration that day when you were found. But the search doesn't end with you or me. God is still searching, sweeping and running toward those who are lost, a world filled with people who have no idea they are dearly loved by Him. But God doesn't just love mankind or every ethnic group among mankind. He loves every single person, of every single ethnicity within the entire human race.

God's astounding love for each person doesn't end with just finding them but in indwelling and

empowering them to live out His purpose! Imagine the potential of the coin in the hands of the widow (even a mite!) or the livelihood of the sheep under the care of the shepherd or the son's wise management of the household guided by the Father! God not only loves every single person but longs to produce fruitful and meaningful lives through every single person. Sadly, many of those who have been found still don't fully comprehend the reason God sought them out."

The found ones are invited to join not only in the celebration but also in the search. God doesn't simply celebrate when a lost one is rescued; but He rejoices to see that one grow in grace, living a life brimming with meaning and purpose. Each found one, no matter where they are from or what language they speak, is invited to join the ranks of the search party. We are an ever-growing search party!

But the search is difficult: the open country, the dark and cobwebby rooms, the seemingly endless roads give way to fatigue and discouragement before the lost are found. Today, there are many without access to God's precious, life-giving story. These lost ones remain isolated through culture, language and proximity to those who already have God's Word. These hurdles will not dissuade

God's tireless pursuit of those whom He loves, though at times we are shaking in our boots. God never sends His searchers out alone; we can be fully assured that He is in us and with us each step of the way.

In what ways am I, today, now, searching with God for what is most precious to Him?

What is it that causes us to abandon the search?

What is it that makes us put down the broom, turn off the search lights and walk back home?

It certainly can't be because all the lost ones are found.

One day the found ones from every people, ethnicity and nation will join in the party of all parties in the throne room of God, not to congratulate themselves for being such great finders, but to celebrate the Finder who gave everything in pursuit of the lost. So, let's continue to celebrate and search until He brings the search to its joyful conclusion.

—Dan Falls, *Ethnos360*

Executive Leadership Team

Dan and his wife, Casie, are also ministering with Global Equipping.



Changing the look but keeping the purpose