



MISSIONARY FLIGHT SPONSORSHIP:

OUTREACH MADE POSSIBLE

Does anyone share the gospel like indigenous people who have just been freed from the clutches of Satan's lies? Their lives are transformed!

They wonder why someone waited so long to tell them the Good News! They certainly don't want to wait to tell their own relatives, friends, distant kinfolk, and outlying villages of their language group. But they face obstacles. Besides spiritual barriers, they encounter mountains, rivers, jungles, rough terrain, not to mention physical limitations and age-related hindrances.

They don't have the convenience of roads, cars, trucks – or airplanes and helicopters. Yet their determination forces them to face the barriers. The going is slow, though, and takes a toll physically. Outreach languishes and stretches on as they struggle with repeated overland and river trips to sustain the outreach. **Yet they know the language, they know the culture. They have the drive to accomplish the task. Can we help them?**

Just as we undergird flight service for Western missionaries who enter ministry in remote areas, can we, the Body of Christ, also assist the indigenous and national missionaries so they can have the benefit of flight service?





CASE IN POINT – A REAL-LIFE EXAMPLE

Itje (pictured above, center, with her husband, **Jeddy**, to the left of her) knew she could drown, but her mind was made up.

As the raging river swept her and her son off their feet, she decided to let go of his hand. He could make it to shore and live, if he didn't have her clinging to him. She had already lived a long life, whereas he had his whole life ahead of him.

Itje and Jeddy and son were returning from an outreach in a village of the Saluan people accessible only by hiking – and by crossing and re-crossing the winding waterways 20-plus times. Their determination surmounted the danger in their zeal to reach this village.

Despite his mom's urging, Itje's son didn't let go of her hand. "He held on firmly as they rolled around and around in the raging waters," recounted pilot Daren Spence. Their terror ceased when the son found footing on a large rock under the water. Jeddy came to their rescue, and they made it to shore.



NO MORE RIVER CROSSINGS – AND A GOOD OUTCOME!

With much labor and toil, the villagers and a crew of nationals built an airstrip in that village of Kolakolamon in the Saluan people group of Indonesia. Jeddy and Itje's outreach continued – now with the aid of the airplane.



Instead of an exhausting ten-hour hike in dry season and up to 18 hours over flooded rivers in rainy season, they flew above it all in a mere 10 minutes! A number of the villagers believed.

What a day it was when the believers chose to be baptized! Just off the end of the airstrip, in the pool of a small river, six of them, including the village chief, were baptized as a testimony of their faith in Jesus Christ for salvation. Now Jeddy and Itje will need to teach and disciple those young believers so they can grow up in the Lord and reach out to the next Saluan village needing the gospel.





A SERVICE MADE ACCESSIBLE

The reality is that indigenous believers like Jeddy and Itje can only afford a fraction of the cost of any flight they take. Pilot Daren says, “Their passion is to do whatever they can to see the gospel message of Jesus Christ taken to those who have never heard.” But they can only use aviation if dedicated servants of God give to make flights affordable.

Do you have a heart to reach remote people groups with the gospel? Do you want to include that as part of your personal mission strategy? **Maybe you can help make flight service available and affordable not only for Western missionaries but also for multiplied devoted servants like Jeddy and Itje.**



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