



God's Word is reaching isolated people groups around the world, and Ethnos360 Aviation is there to help.

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# DEEPEST AND DARKEST



Photo by Jeremiah Diedrich



Photo by Josh Dalton

## What's the darkest place you've ever been in?

For pilot Jeremiah Diedrich, it's the southern edge of the western Amazon region of Brazil.

"It's the deepest, darkest, hardest to reach place in that whole big jungle," he says.

## Twenty-some isolated, hidden people groups in the region still need to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Jeremiah has helped to reach some of them with an airplane. But since airstrips are becoming impossible to build, the airplane is less and less useful as a tool to reach the remaining groups.

### Why not go by land?

Rigorous land and river journeys sap missionaries' time, health, and energy. Without an adequate supply line, they end up living in survival mode, making little progress in ministry. They face burnout, unable to



Photo by Jeremiah Diedrich

endure the ten to twenty years it takes to establish a thriving church — one that can stand on its own and reach out to the next group.

**The solution?** Ethnos360 Aviation is trusting God for an **R66 helicopter** to serve this region. It can land almost anywhere, bypassing the need for airstrips. It is relatively easy to maintain and reasonably economical to operate.

It's a leap of faith, but we know that God will work to provide for His work to be accomplished.

Do you have a heart to reach these hidden and lost people groups? **You can be a part of the team to**

**make sure missionaries get this vital transportation — and people groups hear the gospel!**

**Go to: [ethnos360aviation.org](http://ethnos360aviation.org) and click on "Give."** Choose the Brazil Helicopter Project and explore the ways you can help. And pray!



Pilots Mike McGregor and Jon Leedah (light blue shirts) with the Maliyali team and villagers / photo by Mike McGregor

## WHY IS THE EARTH SHAKING?

**February 26, 2018 — Earthquake after earthquake rocked the highland region of PNG.**

Helicopter pilot Mike McGregor had just flown two hours into the village of Maliyali, bringing consultants to do a language check for the missionary team.

While the consultants worked, Mike had a few days to sit back and observe the villagers' reactions to the terrifying rumblings shaking the earth around them. Each night, he watched as the people solemnly gathered, struggling to deal with the intense fear generated by the unknown. They took turns telling what they thought was happening — why, when, and where it might happen next — and what could be done to stop it.

**The Maliyali are animists. They believe everything bad happens because of supernatural powers reacting against somebody's actions.** So ... who did what to cause this earthquake? Or who didn't do something they should have? What spiritual forces were at work — and how could they convince those forces to stop the earth from shaking?

The missionaries in Maliyali would have loved to

jump right in and tell the villagers the real reason why bad things happen. They'd love to explain that God is more powerful than these earthquakes — and how they can be safe in His family, no matter how much the earth shakes. They want to let them know that God is already fully satisfied with what Jesus has done on their behalf.

*But they can't.* The team is still learning this unwritten language and obscure culture. They are continually observing, taking note of what the people say, what they think, and how they view events. It won't be long before they reach the language proficiency required to clearly present who God really is and how He has made a way of salvation.

As the team works on language, literacy, translation, and teaching, Ethnos360 Aviation will be there to sustain them. Whether bringing groceries, transporting needed materials, or doing medevacs, God has provided aviation to be the lifeline for the Rimestads, Muellers, and Earls as they work to see a thriving church in Maliyali.

**Go to: [ethnos360aviation.org](http://ethnos360aviation.org)** to explore how you can support aviation as it sustains missionaries reaching isolated people groups.

# NOT YOUR ORDINARY DAY IN THE OFFICE!



Photo by Jamin Peck

**The doctor sat down at the battered school desk to begin his day in the clinic.** His hand-lettered name plate — scotch taped to a piece of folded cardboard — read “P. Dalam,” identifying him as a doctor of internal

medicine. Patients sitting in the room around him shyly waited their turn.

The doctor and six of his colleagues, all Asia-Pacific Christians, had signed on to bring medical relief to the Taliabo people. It was a world away from their ordinary sanitary medical facilities in a large city with many modern conveniences. Here, they were shocked to find pigs roaming freely.

The Taliabo village, on a small island in central Asia-Pacific is well known for its many lepers and a population rife with skin disease. The people bathe infrequently — in the river, often with no soap. The village has no internet, cell service, or power.

Even the “pay” was different: Villagers loaded down

the doctors with lots of fresh fruit like mangosteen and durian (an expensive, stinky fruit that most Asia-Pacific people love best of all!)

Though the spiritual needs in Taliabo are great, their physical problems cannot be ignored. God answered their need for medical attention by uniting Ethnos360 Aviation’s flight service with this ministry of national Christian volunteer doctors. Our Kodiak, piloted by national pilot Nomad Nelman, provided feasible and affordable transportation for the medical team. Without it, the trip would have taken a week of boat rides on the ocean, motorbike treks on jungle paths and wading through rivers to get there. The doctors just could not afford that kind of time away from their jobs.

With the Kodiak the team arrived in **just one hour**, “maxing out” the Kodiak’s weight capacity with medicine, supplies, an optometrist, a dermatologist, internist, and four general practitioners. They provided health care to hundreds of villagers over a three-day weekend.

Thanks to all our partners, work like this can happen. As pilot’s wife Elizabeth Peck says, “We are overjoyed to see God provide the means for His work to go forward! Thank you for your part in it. May He receive all the glory for uniting His people around the world to bless others in His name!”

Do you have a heart to “bless others in His name”? Visit [ethnos360aviation.org](http://ethnos360aviation.org) and click the “Give” tab to sponsor flights.



Pilot Nomad Nelman and co-pilot Jamin Peck with the doctors / photo by Jamin Peck



Photo by Brian Pruett

## FIRST EVER!

Never had the Tala-andig believers gathered like this.

Rugged terrain kept them isolated from each other. And though an airplane had flown to the main village at intervals, it was no use to the outlying villages with no airstrips.

A helicopter was the game changer, coupled with Ethnos360 Aviation's decision to make flight affordable. The Tala-andig wasted no time in clearing landing pads, determined to use this new resource God had provided to reach other villages. And they made plans — big plans — to gather!

On this historic weekend, pilot Brian Pruett flew Tala-andig believers from some of their five outreach areas to the main village. Packing in all they could, the believers had planned a baptism, a mission strategy meeting, and the first-ever school graduation.

The Tala-andig really wanted the pilots and their wives to be there, to highlight how aviation has opened doors for them. During the graduation ceremony, many of the students voiced their thanks to the pilots for their support of the local school program. They knew their schooling wouldn't have been possible without flight service to bring all the school supplies, curriculum, and other essential items into the village.

**“The reason this graduation is a big deal,” ran the gist of one lady’s speech, “is because now I can read [the] Bible for myself and I won’t be deceived by false teachings.”** She then proceeded to read from Genesis in her own language! — a clear result of her schooling.



The pilots' wives were honored to present the graduation certificates  
photo by Brian Pruett

For Brian, that was the pinnacle of the whole celebration. “She knew the Gospel, had God’s Word in her own language, could read, was educated, and could teach others,” says Brian. “It was the complete package!”

As Jason Birkin, missionary to the Tala-andig, says, “From the Bible, they know God pursued them and found them here in the middle of the jungle and brought them into His family ... and now through the pilots they are seeing something of how God’s body the Church works and functions together in ministering and reaching out to others. They see they are part of something very big.”

The Tala-andig church leaders took advantage of the weekend to strategize how to reach village number six, despite difficulties. “They are facing fierce spiritual opposition as they teach,” says Brian. “So this gathering provided encouragement and re-energized them.”

The thriving Tala-andig church is grateful for the whole team who provides aviation — not just the aviators, but all who give and pray and encourage. Thank you!

Help facilitate Tala-andig outreach with the helicopter. **Visit [ethnos360aviation.org](http://ethnos360aviation.org)**, click the “Give” tab, and choose the Missionary Flight Sponsorship project.