

NTM@work

your connection with tribal missions



No Grit,
No Glory

NTM@work

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Dale Stroud



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READ the magazine online,
and SEE an album of more photos of
the Manjúi people: ntm.org/magazine





You stole the chief's pig? Are you crazy?

One of the chief's pigs (representing a lot of money in that culture) was stolen and killed by some unruly youth. The chief was understandably furious. The normal retribution would be severe, perhaps even death, and condoned by the community. But God was at work through his two wives. They reminded him of his new faith, of which he is very vocal. "This is what you are talking to us about all the time," they told their husband. "This is coming to test your faith. How are you going to react?" The chief listened to his wives and responded in a way that has the whole community still picking their jaws up off the floor. Not one house was burned down, not one kid was beaten or maimed. The chief will be recompensed, but the way he went about it and controlled himself

has others really taking note. He is probably the most elated of all. As he related the story after our believers' meeting, he just kept marveling and saying to me, "Brandon, this would never have happened before. But now, because I am God's kid, it's different ... there is change."

— *Brandon Buser, Biem tribe,
Papua New Guinea*



Photo by Ray Finsaas



How ice cubes melted a heart

Genesio, a young Manchinere teen from Brazil, didn't know what ice cubes were. So he asked missionary Peter Rich about those things in his cup. Peter told him that it was water made hard with cold.

"I think Peter is lying to us," the tribal boy told his mother when he got home. "He said those hard things were just water. I know that's not true."

But later, Genesio watched Peter fill a little tray with water and put it in a box called a refrigerator. The missionary told him that by tomorrow the water would turn hard. "Come back tomorrow and I'll show it to you." Peter said.

Genesio went back the next day and, sure enough, the water was hard. Peter showed him the back of the refrigerator and explained the process which made the water hard.

"Not long afterwards I was talking with my brother Tshiko," Genesio said. "He was telling me that he didn't believe the things that the missionary was teaching. I told Tshiko that I also did not believe at first but after seeing how a box made by mere men could take water and transform it into hard rocks I now believed that a God who created all things could surely transform the soul of a wicked person into His image."

CONNECT WITH...



Jon and Adie Leedahl

Children: Jaeden, Levi, Jace

NTM Aviation

Ministry: Pilot and Mechanic

Sending church: Redwood Alliance,
Redwood Falls, Minnesota

We both grew up in Christian homes and came to Christ at a young age. At the age of 16, Jon had already begun his flight training and felt the call to use his talents in aviation to serve in bringing the gospel to unreached tribes. Over several years God confirmed His calling through the mentors and equipping that He provided to work towards this goal. Now 16 years later, through training and 11 years of experience as a professional pilot, in airplanes and helicopters, God is directing us to fulfill this calling.

Jon is currently training to be certified as a Technology Specialist. He will begin specialized bush flight training with NTMA in August and Lord willing will be ready to serve in April of 2014. We will then be assigned a country to serve in based on the most urgent needs for a pilot at that time.

Isaiah 25:1 *"Lord, you are my God; I will exalt You and praise Your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago."*

blogs.ntm.org/jon-leedahl



One day was all it took

The drought was affecting everyone in the Guarijio village—the crops, the livestock, the people, the missionaries. The situation was quickly becoming desperate and the missionaries were torn with indecision. Should they go? Should they stay? They didn't want to leave the people or the translation work. What should they do? Then they knew exactly what to do—they prayed. And they sent out a call for others to pray as well. The next day an update came in from missionary Terry Reed.

“Just wanted to let you know,” he wrote, “that there is a beautiful rain falling right now. This rain was completely unexpected. My translation helper, Santos, was so impressed when he saw God work through the prayers of God's people. It was a blessing to watch God grow Santos' faith just a bit more in sending the rain.”

Will you **pray** right now for the Guarijio people and the church being planted there? Pray that God would shower down His power on the Guarijio work in Mexico—opening hearts, changing minds and giving wisdom for every word chosen in the translation.

Get NTM prayer requests daily or weekly:
ntm.org/magazine



“We are so grateful for our highly trained, skillful pilots.

Having abnormally excellent pilots is normal for us.”

—Lynne Castelijn,
Banwaon tribe, Philippines



Not on his deathbed

In English we have the expression: “He is on his deathbed.” In Landuma culture, the equivalent expression would be, “He has been lowered to the floor.”

A person on their deathbed is usually suffering a lot. The Landumas believe that a person will die sooner if they are lying on a mat or mattress on the floor. So they will take the sick person off the bed and lay them on the floor in a compassionate attempt to hasten their death.

—Kirk Rogers,
Landuma tribe, Guinea



Photo by Dale Stroud

CONNECT WITH...



Taylor and Abby Goheen

Children: Norah, Anniston and Uriah

Papua New Guinea

Ministry: Church Planting

Sending churches: Smokey Point Community Church, Arlington, Washington

We did not know there were entire ethnic groups in the world who didn't know about the Person of Jesus Christ. Our eyes were enlightened to the many unreached people groups in the world through the book, “The Great Omission” by J. Roberson McQuilkin. An ember was kindled deep within. Would the Lord have us take part in bearing the Word of God to the ends of the earth? Why not, we thought? The Lord has clearly called us to make disciples of all nations (Matt 28:18-19).

With no education beyond high school, we knew schooling and training were in order, but where? Dear friends and mentors had been missionaries with New Tribes Mission and suggested we consider attending New Tribes Bible Institute and continue on with the organization. The school seemed to accommodate families well and the mission organization's heartbeat was in rhythm with ours.

As the days unfolded and preparations were underway we came across a movie concerning a New Tribes missionary couple working among the Dao people. The movie showed this couple hiking in and meeting the Daos. This was followed by various glimpses of them living among the Daos, learning their language and culture, translating the Scripture and teaching Firm Foundation Bible lessons — from Genesis through the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. Wow, we thought, this, by far looks like the coolest thing in the world. By this time we were sold. How could we not go?

With enthusiasm, our home church, Smokey Point Community Church — especially the Young Adults Group — embraced the thought of sending us. When the time came, it did not feel as if Abby and I were leaving as individuals, but as a group of people saying, “Yes, this is what the Lord would have us do.” So, in the midst of a Washington blizzard we left friends and family and headed out to begin training with New Tribes Mission.

blogs.ntm.org/taylor-goheen



The helpless little girl in Mexico

At a recent eye glass clinic, a little girl was brought in for help. Her parents had to carry her to us because she couldn't walk, speak, see or from all indications, reason. She was completely helpless and as we suspected, completely hopeless as well. The doctor confirmed that her problem was inoperable.

The little girl's extreme plight was a picture to me of all the tribal people out there (or maybe even your own neighbors?) who are totally lost and helpless without Christ as their Savior. With spiritually blinded minds, they are incapable of walking with God. But He has made you and me His ambassadors of spiritual healing and the wonderful incomparable news of freedom in Christ.

"I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."
John 8:12

—John and Linda Steinbacher, Chihuahua, Mexico

Could you stop right now and consider how you are helping to spread that wonderful news? And is there perhaps something more that God is asking you to do?

**Find new opportunities:
ntm.org/magazine**



"One day I hope to break bread together with the Nahuatl people as a symbol of our shared hope in Christ. Until then I will gladly eat greasy stew, lumpy oatmeal and hairy pork rinds in order to become Nahuatl for the sake of the gospel."

—Katie Moore, Nahuatl tribe, Mexico

KIDSQUIZ

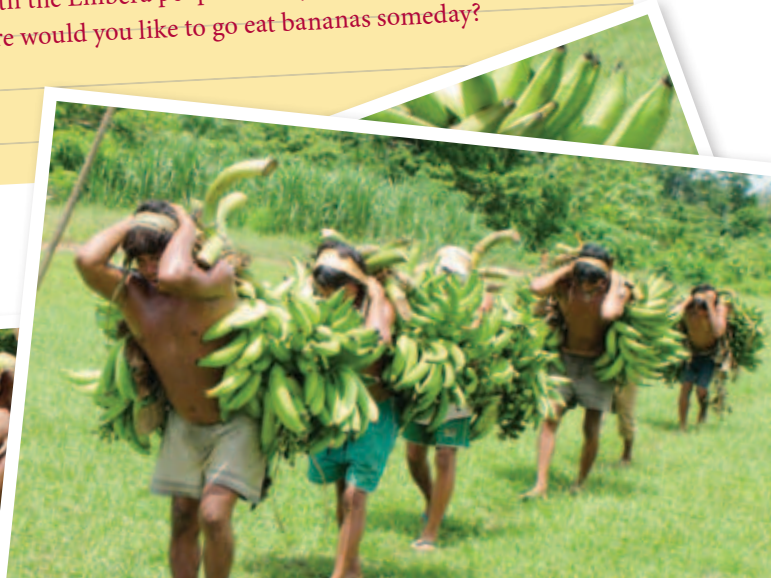
Submitted by Macon Hare, Executive Editor

Do you like bananas? The Embera people of Colombia do. They eat so many bananas, they keep them in piles on the kitchen floor. And they don't just eat yellow ones either. They also eat green ones, red ones, and even square ones. The Embera people also have a funny way of peeling their bananas. They hit them with a machete. Do you know what that is? It's a long, curved knife as big as a sword. And guess what? They cook their bananas too. How do you think they do that?

- A) They cut up bananas in chunks and boil them in water like a potato.
- B) They fry banana chunks in pig grease, then smash them sharply between two rocks and fry them again until golden brown.
- C) They throw a banana in the fire to roast like a marshmallow, but without the stick. When the peel splits open, they take it out and begin eating. But they have to keep tossing it in the air between bites so their hands don't burn!
- D) They grate it like we do a carrot or some cheese. Then they wrap it in leaves from the banana tree and put it on hot coals to cook. When it begins to feel like play dough, it's ready to eat.
- E) All of the above.

(Answer is found on the bottom of page 12)

We can eat bananas anywhere. But missionaries choose to go and eat them with the Embera people so they can also tell them about Jesus. Where would you like to go eat bananas someday?



CONNECT

You weren't stingy ones

When Merrill and Theresa Dyck's parents came to visit them in the tribe, many of the village chiefs gathered around to give them the following message:

"You weren't stingy ones. No, you didn't hold on to your children tightly but let them come here to live among us ... If you would have been stingy ones ... we wouldn't have been able to hear the Good Words that they brought to us ... we would still be dying off and going to the big fire lake. But no, you did like God, for He wasn't a stingy one either. He didn't hold on to His Son tightly but let Him come down from heaven. Even though He just had one Son and not more, He let Him come down so He could die interveningly for all the bad we have done. So yes, you have been good to us ... You did well in not being stingy with what was yours."

The village chiefs were quoting the translation of John 3:16 in their language: *For because the true God truly loved all people, he gave His Son interveningly for them. Even though he just had that one Son, he gave him with no stinginess. And if anyone believes in Him, he will have everlasting life with no possibility of being cast out.*

"This non-stingy God asks us believers to not be stingy as well. He asks us in Romans 12:1 to present our bodies to Him as a living sacrifice without stinginess, in order that He might do in and through us all that He wants to do."

—Merrill Dyck

Photo by Dale Stroud



"Let us see that we keep God before our eyes; that we walk in His ways and seek to please and glorify Him in everything, great and small. Depend upon it, God's work, done in God's way, will never lack God's supplies."

—Hudson Taylor

All about the birds and the bees... and the bats.

I was practicing my new Pidgin skills, the national language of Papua New Guinea, when my friend looked amused. I had been telling her the difference between birds and bats. Bats carry their babies live, but instead of saying that birds' babies are in an egg (*kiau*), I told her they were in a sweet potato (*kaukau*). We both enjoyed a good laugh.

—Barb Kuecken, Tax Department,
USA Home Office

Have you ever been fascinated by different languages and how they work? Or perhaps you've even discovered a knack for them?

**Learn how to become a linguist with
NTM: ntm.org/magazine**



Barb with friends in Papua New Guinea

CONNECT WITH...



Noe and Lisa Martinez

Children: Adannaya and Jocellyn
Papua New Guinea

Ministry: Church Planting

Sending churches: Boulevard Park Church, Seattle, Washington; Grace Church, Seattle, Washington; Cannon Beach Bible Church; and Hispanic Church, Cannon Beach, Oregon

We were both saved at a young age. Noe, coming out of a broken home, was the second in his family to come to Christ. Lisa was brought up in a family of believers. In our teen and college years, we both learned about the millions of unreached people in the world who have no access to the Word of God in their heart language. Romans 15:20 says: "It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation." The Lord used this verse to further compel us to be involved in church planting among those who have no opportunity to hear!

blog.ntm.org/noe-martinez



CONNECT

Recipe:

Missionaries in West Africa come from many diverse cultures. When the ladies share recipes, they often get a delicious taste from another land. This is a Brazilian recipe from Hope Rancan.

Cochinha

Ingredients:

3 c. milk	1 deboned shredded chicken
1 bouillon cube	1 c. mixture of finely chopped green pepper and onion
3 Tbsps. butter	1 egg, beaten
2 Tbsps. tomato paste	bread crumbs
2 c. flour	salt to taste

Instructions:

Boil the milk, bouillon cube, butter and tomato paste. As soon as it begins to boil, put in the flour and salt to taste. Lower heat and keep stirring until well blended and the mixture begins to cling to the spoon and come away from the sides of the pan, forming a ball. Remove from heat. Begin taking small amounts of dough and shaping them to look like chicken thighs. Make a small opening in the center to stuff with the shredded chicken, green pepper and onion mixture (or any other finely chopped leftovers you have). After stuffing the dough, seal the opening. Repeat until the dough is used up. Then roll in egg and bread crumbs and deep fry. Save any leftover chicken for another meal.



photo by istockphoto

“We need someone
to shine some light
so we can see.”

—Lagan,
Kui tribe, Cambodia



Jordan and Amy Husband

Children: Elayne Rose and Titus Lee

Mexico

Ministry: Church Planting

Sending churches: Peaceful Valley Church, Elk, Washington

Amy and I are both amazingly privileged to have grown up in homes where our parents loved God and were faithful to teach us of our desperate need for Him. By God's mercy we both understood the gospel of Jesus Christ while very young and have trusted in His sacrifice alone to reconcile us to God. That blessing means the world to us and we are working today to pass that heritage down to our own children.

But what of those who have never heard of Jesus or their need for Him? To teach us of God, our parents first needed to know Him themselves—yet one in three people today still don't have access to that knowledge. Until that changes, they will never be able to put their trust in God. As Paul wrote in Romans 10, "How shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?"

As we have walked with God, He has focused our lives on this reality: God desires that all people be reconciled to Him. He has given us the responsibility to share the hope we have in Him. Amy understood this when she was only 13, realizing that in light of this reality that she simply couldn't live life pursuing the American Dream. Instead, Amy became determined to serve the Lord as a missionary.

It took me longer to catch God's vision for reaching the lost. I was 20 and in college when I realized that the path I'd chosen for myself was just that: my choice. God was faithful to lead me along slowly from that point, and once I realized how many people have no way to hear of His love, there was no other course I could imagine following.

Now we are preparing to move to Mexico—a country that is so different from what we once assumed. So many churches send teams to Mexico that we wondered how anyone could possibly not know of Jesus. Yet more than 200 distinct languages are spoken in Mexico today, and far too many still have no access to God's Word in their native tongues. God has now blessed us again—this time by giving us a part in seeing those barriers breached and His love revealed to people who need to know Him. We can't wait to get started!

blog.ntm.org/jordan-husband



CONNECT

Hangers, forks and some shampoo

Ever feel like pulling your hair out? Nancy Dore did. She was trying to pack to leave for Senegal. What should she take? What should she leave behind? Possessions had become like old friends she could count on. How was she supposed to choose between them? And she absolutely knew she needed hangers, but they weren't fitting anywhere.

But Nancy made the best choices she could.

Later, as she and her husband arrived in Senegal and moved into their apartment, a stack of hangers waiting on the dresser almost made her cry. And while rummaging around in the kitchen, her husband, Michael, suddenly said, "Hey look! Our forks!" Sure enough, there was silverware with the exact pattern they had just left behind in storage. And the next day as Nancy walked across the street to shop in the open-air market, she couldn't believe what she found—bottles of her favorite Herbal Essence shampoo, long since discontinued in the states.

"What do shampoo, a fork and a hanger have in common?" she asks. "They are just little reminders to me that God loves me. He knew my needs even when I did not. God is in control. He puts me in a house with all I need; He puts me in a place across the street from a shop that carries the shampoo that I love, even though it has been out of production in the USA for years. What an awesome God we serve!"



"Therefore I say to you, **do not worry** about your life, what you will eat; nor about the body, what you will put on. Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing. Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap, which have neither storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them.

Of how much more value are you than the birds?"

Luke 12:22-24



What Emily Post didn't know!

1. As a foreigner, which weddings are you expected to attend in the Asia-Pacific Region?

- a.** Only those of close friends and their families. **b.** Those in your neighborhood. **c.** Only those you receive an invitation from.

Answer: b and c. Neighborhood relationships are very important and it's considered an insult to miss a neighborhood wedding. Everyone in the neighborhood is usually given a formal invitation, so these should definitely be attended if possible. You may also receive invitations to weddings from other friends or acquaintances. Attend these as you are able.

2. What gift do you bring?

- a.** No gift — this would be considered an insult. **b.** A bag of rice or some fruit. **c.** An envelope with money.

Answer: c. An envelope with money. The gift doesn't need to be much. Just ask friends what amount is appropriate. When you arrive at the wedding or reception, drop your envelope in the vase with a slit on top.

3. How long does the typical wedding last?

- a.** Two hours **b.** 12 hours **c.** One to three days

Answer: c. Including the reception, the typical wedding lasts anywhere from one to three days. Different events take place during that time, including the formal ceremony, visiting with close family and receiving visitors at the open-house style reception.

4. Where are weddings and receptions typically held?

- a.** A local place of worship **b.** A banquet hall or large meeting room **c.** At home

Answer: c. Almost all weddings are held at home. Receptions are often at both the bride and groom's parents' houses. Chairs are set up in the yard and food is prepared and served by neighbors and close friends.

5. What do you do at the reception?

- a.** Eat to your heart's content **b.** Sing and listen to karaoke **c.** Watch the locals for cues on what to do

Answer: All of the above. After shaking hands with the happy couple and their close family members, guests are served a snack and drink and then are seated. After finishing their snack, guests are encouraged to go through the main food line, where they help themselves to rice, vegetables and meat. At some weddings, there is even an ice cream line. While you eat, enjoy listening to the traditional music or join your friends and neighbors in one of their favorite pastimes – karaoke. Every wedding reception is a bit different, so be sure to watch for cues as to when it is appropriate to shake hands, get food or leave.



CONNECT

Bring on the feast!

The Mwinikas had a reason to celebrate. Though it's hard to learn to read as an adult, the group of Mwinika men and one woman now stood proudly holding their literacy certificates. For some, it was the first certificate they had ever received. 74-year-old "Uncle John" did very well—once he was given some reading glasses. Another man, Moes, tragically lost his wife of 16 years to sickness and had missed a lot of class. But his fellow students, some believers, rallied to help him—an unusual gesture in this culture—and he was able to return and complete the course. Now after speeches were made and each graduate read aloud from Genesis 1, village leaders spontaneously grabbed and pumped the students' hands as everyone smiled and clapped. Bring on the feast of chicken and rice!

—*Francois and Nadia Hattingh, Mwinika tribe, Mozambique*



Photo by Phil Henderson

The fourth group of Mwinika people now have the same opportunity to read what we've had in our language for 700 years — God's Word.

You can help translate the Bible for others too:
ntm.org/magazine



Lisa Kappeler has found "scope" for her gifts in Papua New Guinea.

**"HERE IS A FIELD FOR YOUR ENERGIES.
BRING WITH YOU YOUR HIGHEST EDUCATION
AND GREATEST TALENTS;
YOU WILL FIND SCOPE
FOR THE EXERCISE OF THEM ALL."**

—Alexander Mackay, missionary to Uganda, late 1800s

REACH MORE TRIBES

The simplest way to reach more tribes is to send out more missionaries.

But those missionaries need to be trained. They need to know how to:

- Decipher a foreign culture
- Learn an unwritten language
- Translate God's Word
- Train church leaders

And more. That's why New Tribes Mission has a Missionary Training Center. The center can currently train 150 students a year, and plans call for that to expand to 250, so more unreached men, women and children have the opportunity to learn what Jesus did for them 2,000 years ago. It's about time, isn't it?

Your gifts to expand the training center will help reach more tribes. Please give today. ntm.org/magazine



Two bottom photos by Dale Stroud



no grit, no glory.

*As told by Leah Humphreys,
missionary to the Manjúi in Paraguay
with Dena McMaster, contributing editor*

I was hot and everything was dusty.

I held my fussy baby in one arm and ran the diapers into the wringer of our Maytag washer. Well that was one thing—at least I wasn't scrubbing diapers by hand anymore.

The pounding of the generator running the washing machine almost kept me from hearing a visitor coming down the path toward our adobe house—someone else who wanted something.



photo by Gordie Hunt

I thought about pretending that I hadn't heard anything, but I knew it would only be minutes before the visitor began "coughing" while he or she looked into every window... even the higher bathroom window.

I clamped my teeth together remembering how one lady had dragged a propane gas bottle over to that window so she could have a better look inside, and the grit between my teeth reminded me where I was — in the Manjúi village where we had moved to bring the gospel to this remote, and so far, ungrateful tribe.

"Well, if we could just get some people saved around here," I thought, wiping my sweaty face on the back of

the baby's shirt, "but that would take learning their dialect better."

Even the language was resistant in this remote location.

And, OK, we don't save people — that's God's responsibility. Right now what I needed saving from was this filthy desert wind driving grains of sand into the lines of diapers and other clothing. I rounded the corner of the house, half-wondering why I hadn't heard anyone scratching at the screens as they made their way around

When Peter and Leah Humphreys first arrived in Paraguay they had no idea Manjúi hearts would be as hard as the ground they sat on.



photo by Peter Humphreys

"A'NAASI" i said, brightly, pulling
God's endless love around myself.

the house. Sitting next to our front
door was Laweyin, the village blind
man.

"A'naas!" I said, brightly, pulling
God's endless love around myself.
Laweyin replied with the same word,
indicating that he had "arrived" at my
place.

"So, what's happening?" I asked in
Manjúi, letting the baby down onto
our dirt porch. Staying clean and
keeping kids clean had long fallen off
my list.

"Ta'ipa," he replied. "Nothing, not a
thing is happening."

"Oi ezap!" "OK," I said, "I'm not
drinking tea right now, but maybe
later."



photos this page by Jeff Hunt

Nina was Leah's best
friend and one of her
main language helpers.
She is cooking rice and
corn here to be served
along with barbequed
goat and plenty of candy
at the big Manjúi New
Year's celebration.



photo by Jeff Hunt



There's always time to share stories and tea.

Many hours were spent drinking yerba mate (a flavorful herbal tea made from tree leaves, a popular drink enjoyed throughout Paraguay) with anyone who dropped by, and that would go on every waking hour if I always brought it out.

Dusting off the baby, I went back into the house. As I set the table for lunch, I happened to catch a glimpse of Laweyin, still in the same place, with his dog next to him.

"What's his story?" I asked Peter at lunch.

It was interesting — and sad. When Laweyin was about three years old, he developed a terrible eye infection, and his parents rubbed some ash into them, hoping for a cure. In the end, the infection healed up but left Laweyin without one eyeball and with no sight in the other.

No one told him he was handicapped, and Laweyin quickly adapted to this loss. It seemed like his ability to hear was greatly magnified. Stories were told of Laweyin and his dogs going into the jungle to hunt wild pigs with nothing more than a club. Another story featured him shooting birds for the cooking pot with his slingshot.

Laweyin also became a shaman, and his specialty was healing children. He would be paid in food and articles of clothing for chanting over sick children, who would often recover.

Later that day I put some noodles and meat in a bowl for Laweyin and took them out. "Kama!" I said, touching the side of the bowl to his hand. Gnarly fingers quickly grabbed the sides of the bowl and I watched as he dug out a little portion for his pet.



photo by Gordie Hunt

no one told him he was handicapped,
and laweyin quickly adapted to this loss.

Teatime in Paraguay

by Cathy Hedvall, contributing editor

Tea made from the yerba plant is a huge part of Paraguayan culture. People drink it hot or cold. When it's served hot, it's called *mate*. When it's served cold, it's called *tereré*. It's a social activity done any time people visit in each other's homes.

Most often the *mate* is enjoyed early in the morning and in the evenings. *Tereré* is served throughout the day. In some communities a horn is blown to indicate that it's time for tea.

Often ice and herbs like mint, as well as lemon, are mixed in the water bucket or pitcher and poured over the dried loose tea in the *guampa* (bull's horn). Or for *mate*, hot water containing lemon, honey or coconut is poured in. The *bombilla* (metal straw closed on one end with little holes to form a strainer) is used to suck the water out of the *guampa* after the leaves have soaked for a delightful (some say hay-like) flavor.

The yerba plant grows wild and plenteous. Some studies say it's healthy and full of useful vitamins. Others say there seems to be a stimulant in it. You can find it in health food stores in the USA claiming all kinds of miracle powers. Older Paraguayan folk will tell you it enhances the functioning of everything from your brain to your kidneys.

Whatever the nutritional value, offering *mate* or *tereré* is a cultural expectation that communicates love and care for those who come to visit.

Can you find the buckets, pitchers and guampas in many of the pictures?



photo by Cheralyn

Jwiyo was one of the first Manjúi young people to come to know the Lord. Even as a teenager, he would ride his motorbike to teach others what he had learned.

Almost every day, Laweyin came to sit on my porch. As the children grew, I began to expect and count on his daily visits. He had stories to tell, and he wanted me to understand them.

Laweyin became my unofficial language helper, which solved a huge problem for me as I sometimes only had ten to 15 minutes at a time to work on learning the language, and I couldn't afford to hire someone to sit around and wait for me to be ready.

Sitting beside Laweyin with my pencil and paper, I asked him every question I could think of — there were endless genealogies and sentence structure mysteries. As he pondered, his one eyeball would roll around like it was searching every corner of his mind for the best answer. He helped me understand difficult pronunciations — I could look right into his mouth when he spoke. He told me a thousand times, a hundred thousand times, "That's not how you say it. Try again!"

In the cold season of June and July, one of our boys would build a fire under the water tank on the back porch.

twelve long years went by with almost no response from anyone.
How our team longed to "shake the dust off our feet"...

"I'm through believing Satan's lies!
I know that I have sinned,
and Jesus paid my sin debt.
I believe only what God says now."

When Laweyin arrived, one of the children would put his hand on their back, and lead him to it. He would sit there for hours, enjoying the comfort of the fire and adding sticks to it now and then. He knew that eventually I would be coming out with some strange food for him to enjoy. The only thing he ever rejected was pickles.

Years went by and language learning was finished, and God's Word went out into Manjúi hearts. Every weekday the people would gather to hear Peter teach God's message to them.

But Laweyin never came to hear the teaching. Peter and I would take turns telling him about God, and he would listen, but never respond.

Twelve long years went by with almost no response from anyone. How our team longed to "shake the dust off our feet" and move on to a work where we could feel successful.

Then one day Laweyin came to visit. I just didn't feel like visiting so I asked Peter to take a break from his office work and sit with Laweyin. After a few minutes, Peter called into the house, "Honey, I think you should come out and hear this!"

Laweyin told us, "I was sitting by the fire one day shaking my rattle and chanting, making sure the spirits stayed familiar with my voice.

"Suddenly, fire ants attacked me. Jumping up, I brushed them off and went to sit on a wooden structure that would keep me off the ground. I began chanting again, and once more the fire ants swarmed over me. I knew then that I needed to hear about God. He wanted me to listen."

Laweyin's nephew, one of the first believers, began teaching him. Early one morning, Laweyin came to our house and excitedly announced, "I'm through believing Satan's lies! I know that I have sinned, and Jesus paid my sin debt. I believe only what God says now."

I was over the moon ... and under a rock. God knew just how to get through to Laweyin — He had opened the eyes of his understanding, but why didn't I have a more loving, giving attitude to my constant visitor? God was doing something in me as well;



photo by Gordie Hunt

chipping away at hardened areas of my heart.

God changed my heart as I saw the change in Laweyin's heart.

As time passed, the Humphreys had to leave the Manjúi ministry and assumed a member-care ministry in Canada.

Then last August, we returned to Paraguay to visit our son Shaun, his wife Mel and their three children. They minister to the Nivacle people in Campo Princesa, Paraguay. While there, we also went to visit our Manjúi friends.

As soon as I got out of the truck, I began looking around for my friend. After a time of visiting with everyone, I was able to talk with Laweyin by himself. I asked him how things were going and he replied, "I've had much pain and sickness. I asked God to take it away, and he didn't. He gave me

"I've had much pain and sickness. I asked God to take it away, and He didn't. He gave me peace instead! I know I will go to live with Him when I die."

peace instead! I know I will go to live with Him when I die."

We returned home resting in the assurance that we would see Laweyin again — even if only in Heaven. Then our son wrote to say that Laweyin had gone Home to be with God. I am so comforted knowing that his sight is now restored, and he is enjoying the bliss of Heaven and fellowship with his Savior, Jesus.

We give God the glory for Laweyin's salvation and promotion into His presence. The thought came



photo by Gordie Hunt

If the Humphreys and their partners had given up teaching God's Word, we wouldn't have Laweyin's story.



photo by Paul Triller

to mind that this made it worth it all — all the long years of living in a dirty, dusty, remote location while suffering separation from family — but then I was reminded that Jesus said, “If you love me, you’ll obey me.” (John 14:15).

It is worth everything to obey God — even when the results don’t turn out how we want. It’s the obedience itself that is our success, and that shows we love God. I never want to forget that.

NOTE: Even when Laweyin wouldn’t listen; Pete and Leah showed God’s love to him. As they applied the principles taught in New Tribes Mission training, God was faithful to His ministry of changing lives.

The ministry has not ended. Jeff and Stacy Hunt live in the tribe and are discipling and seeing growth in the believers who heard Firm Foundations chronological Bible lessons from Peter. Jeff is seeing the fruit of his labor as well as that of co-workers who went before.

The Manjúi church continues to flourish. Soon four elders will be ordained and will take over the duties of leading the church.

The Manjúis are applying the principles that the Humphreys taught them. They have seen the need to take



Today the Humphreys help fellow missionaries to “keep on keeping on” through mentoring and counseling in Canada.

the Gospel to other villages and have recently sent Isnei and his wife Zitila’ out as missionaries to another language group.

Jeff’s dad, Gordie Hunt, and the Manjúi translation team have only 2 Corinthians, Hebrews and Revelation left to translate and the Manjúi New Testament will be ready for print.

New Tribes Missionary Training Center prepared the Hunts and the Humphreys for a successful ministry among the Manjúi people



of Paraguay. **To start the process to train with NTM today: ntm.org/train**

Sticking it out from

In one short year, Joanna Kreiger has experienced a whirlwind of changes and challenges.

Last year she was a student at NTM's Missionary Training Center and looking forward to a life of missionary service in Africa.

Now she has graduated from the training and has begun what some consider the hardest part of becoming a missionary—partnership development. But she is committed to the long and sometimes bumpy road, to finding “that lovely core group of people that I’m deeply connected with” who

will make up her prayer, encouragement and financial support system.

Joanna admits that all the tasks and choices she faced after graduation were overwhelming.

“I was definitely burdened by the weight of the decisions to be made, and struggling to trust the Lord with them entirely. The Holy Spirit has really worked in a crazy way since then. He’s definitely turned my ‘weeping’ into joy and blessed assurance that



Joanna at Interface in Papua New Guinea, a college-level missions course.

Find out more: ntm.org/interface



the start

by Dena McMaster, contributing editor

He's got things under control."

Joanna is so thankful for the wise counsel of her instructors at the training center as well as her pastor and other faithful friends. She is already seeing the blessings God uses to encourage her along the way, like getting an encouraging email, a friend giving her a Kindle "just because" or receiving a gift of \$500.

"Sometimes I laugh out loud at how astonishing God is," wrote Joanna.

Sometimes i laugh out loud
at how astonishing God is.

photo by Christine Dusdal



Joanna with her language helper at Interface



photo by Sherry Karum

Learning practical skills at NTM's
Missionary Training Center
Find out more: ntm.org/interface





Joanna with her mom [left] visiting where her sister serves in the Asia-Pacific region

Each blessing strengthens her resolve to persevere.

One particular encouragement was getting to experience life with a real missionary — her sister Kathryn, who serves in the Asia-Pacific region. They had a great reunion, hiking mountains, riding motorcycles and eating boatloads of rice.

“It was tremendous to see, hear, taste, smell and touch the world in which Kathryn has been living for the last three years,” she wrote.

In February, Joanna met one of her long-term goals by finalizing her membership with New Tribes Mission. Next, she hopes to travel to Africa in the fall to gather more infor-

**each blessing strengthens
her resolve to persevere.**

mation about missionary life and help confirm a decision she believes she will be making shortly about where to serve. Her pastor and possibly a few others will accompany Joanna to gain a more accurate understanding of what life will be like for her, in order to be a better support system from home. Then she will return and continue building a team of people to join her in her future ministry.

“I’ve had so many chances to tell people what I’m doing, and several



Pray for Joanna's decision of where to serve in Africa.

more have caught the vision of what God is doing in Africa! He is amazing and surprising.”

Whenever Joanna's not on the road, she will be reaching out, serving, and continuing to learn and grow with her own body of believers.

“God has opened up several opportunities for discipleship and serving in my local church. It's been a huge blessing. And I can also see how those opportunities to interact with women my age and older will be such incredible training for when I get to the field.”

What Joanna desires most now is clear direction from God concerning which place in Africa to go.



“I'd love to be done making decisions,” she wrote, “But by His grace, God will walk me through this season of my life, just as He has walked me through every other one — in His time.”

Your involvement, great or small, gives missionaries like Joanna Kreiger the means to “stay the course” as they work to bring tribal people to the Lord. Would you consider becoming a partner with Joanna or another NTM missionary today?



Find out how at
ntm.org/missionaries



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Coming to NTBI was the best decision I have ever made. After learning how to study the Bible, I am now even more confident in my God and His Word. I know what God wants for my life. — Sarah Williams



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