



UNSHAKEABLE

June 15, 2026

Dear Friend of JAARS,

As the Vice President of Air, Land and Sea Operations and the host of *Uncharted*, our very own podcast here at JAARS, I hear a lot of stories. One really stuck out to me recently. At its center is this statement:

“This world, this ground that we live on, it shakes, it moves—all the time—but the Kingdom of God does not. It is unshakeable.”

This message came from a pastor in Papua New Guinea during a church service for national Bible translators ... just moments after a 7.6 magnitude earthquake interrupted his outdoor sermon.

Recently, this pastor’s message made its way halfway across the world to me through a man named John, a Bible translator. John and his wife Jenny rely on our aviation crew in Papua New Guinea to reach a remote community in the mountains.

They attended that church service on that very day. And when they described the event, it took me a minute to wrap my head around what I was hearing:

“The ground kind of started moving a little bit, just a little tremor, which we’re used to,” said Jenny. “And then all of a sudden the concrete slab we were standing on just started moving back and forth, back and forth. ... We went out into the grass and the ground was just rolling like a wave.”

“It was like trying to stand on the ocean,” said John.

Now, a 7.6 magnitude earthquake is no joke—even for a place like Papua New Guinea, which sits in the heart of the Pacific Ring of Fire.

But instead of calling it a day, John and Jenny’s pastor changed the subject of his sermon to preach out of Hebrews 12. Reading from that passage, he testified to God’s unshakeable kingdom, just minutes after the ground rolled beneath his feet.



Jenny and her children disembarking after staying in a remote Domung village in the mountains.

Later, John, Jenny and their three young children discovered that the earthquake had destroyed their home. I asked whether this caused them to pause at all and ask themselves: Is this really where I want to be?

John answered without hesitation:

“I think for us, we often go back to the calling that we feel God gave us. When times are hard, we remind ourselves this is not an accident that we’re here. This is God’s purpose, God’s calling. **It’s His mission. He’ll guard us. He’ll protect us. He will enable us to do the work.**”

It’s easy to read a statement like that and be in awe of John and Jenny’s faith. I am. But the deeper testimony here is not that John and Jenny are unshakeable people. It’s that they are anchored by an unshakeable God.

And God did provide. After the earthquake, He moved in the hearts of generous Christians from across the world. As a result, our JAARS crew was able to help remote villages and missionaries like John and Jenny recover after the earthquake.



Lenny, one of our maintenance specialists, working in his home country of Papua New Guinea.



One of our pilots perched along a mountain range, right next to a sharp drop-off in Guningwa, Papua New Guinea.

Today, four years after that massive earthquake, our crew continues to fly John, Jenny, and many other missionaries into some of the most remote, isolated villages on Earth.

All the while, Papua New Guinea experiences roughly 700 earthquakes a year. Nonetheless, God has empowered us to play a role in mission aviation there for 64 years—and counting.

Everywhere I look, that pastor’s words ring true.

This world, this ground we live on—it’s constantly shifting and shaking around us. But the outcome of God’s mission is certain.

I see it in Cameroon—where, in one of its most sensitive regions, we’re preparing for two Bible dedications this summer. Amid this region’s unrest, two communities will finally be receiving Scripture in their own language.

And deep in a region of the Amazon where outsiders are forbidden to enter, a Ticuna village—once reached through JAARS—has been able to share Scripture with other fellow Ticuna villages that hadn’t yet been reached. Now, we’re continuing to train and equip them for more outreach even deeper into the rainforest.

This is the God we serve. He’s working in the deepest parts of the Malaysian, Congolese, and Amazon rainforests to make His Word and His love known, and barriers old and new can’t hold His mission back.

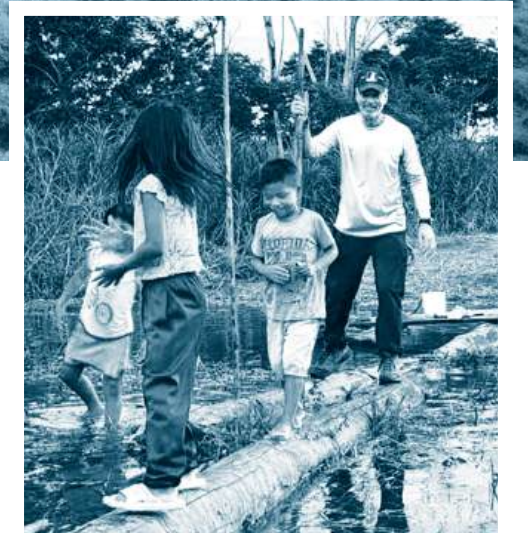
We’re seeing it. We’re living it. I invite you to join us.

Partner with us in His mission for eternal kingdom impact, secure in the hands of our unshakeable God.

Sincerely,

Craig Russell

Vice President of Air, Land and Sea Operations, and host of the JAARS podcast, *Uncharted*



JAARS President Steve Russell visiting Ticuna villages on the Amazon River this past March.





PS Just like our crew in air, land and sea, your partnership is crucial in living out this kingdom work.

Please consider giving monthly to keep the mission moving and growing.

jaars.org/kingdom-work

“The helicopter isn’t just making our ministry more effective. I would unequivocally say it makes it possible.

We could not be doing Bible translation among the Domung people without all the support behind us from sending churches, partners, and from JAARS...”

“We just couldn’t get out to the village without the helicopter.”

—John, a Bible translator in Papua New Guinea

