



By Stuart Matthews

Illustrated by Michael Vigil



Hi! My name is Cody, and I'm a missionary pilot. I fly airplanes to faraway places where cars can't go. Sometimes, it would take days to walk there! But my airplane helps people get what they need quickly.



I fly two kinds of airplanes.

- One has wheels and lands on dirt runways.
- The other is called a floatplane. It lands on rivers!

In the jungle, there aren't big airports with control towers, just tiny runways and docks made of wood.



Yesterday, my co-pilot and I flew to a village far, far away. We brought medicine, food, and supplies to help the people. The sound of the airplane's engine let everyone know we were coming. They waved and smiled as we landed on the river.



On the way home, we got a call!
“Cody, can you pick up the doctor
and a patient?” A man had fallen
out of a tree while gathering
fruit. Ouch! He needed to go to
the hospital fast. We made space
in the airplane for the stretcher,
and off we flew!



Sometimes, things don't go as planned. One day, the airplane wouldn't start! We had to fix the engine ourselves, way out in the jungle. I had to be very careful not to drop my tools into the river. Knowing how to fix planes is just as important as flying them.



Being a missionary pilot means more than flying airplanes. It's about helping people and sharing God's love. The villagers watch what we do and how we act. That's why it's important to show kindness and be a good helper. Sometimes, I even help teach Bible stories!



Becoming a missionary pilot takes time. I started learning to fly and fix airplanes when I was young. I also learned new languages so I could talk to the people in the villages. It wasn't easy, but helping others is worth it!



Every day is an adventure! Some days, I fly all day long. Other days, I help fix the airplane. And sometimes, I get to meet new friends and learn about their lives. It's an exciting job, full of surprises.

If you love helping people and working with airplanes, maybe one day you'll be a missionary pilot too! It's a big job, but you'll see God's love in amazing places and help people who need you. The world needs helpers like you! "The best journeys are the ones we take for others."

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