



Dickens Family To Brazil

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Dear Praying Saints,

(2 Corinthians 2:14) "Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place."

Our Lord has been so gracious to allow us to see the first part of this verse come to pass. It has been an exciting and needless to say educational two months here in our new place of ministry. Brazil is an exciting place (except that we are in the middle of the rainy season, a rather dreary time), and we are beginning to settle in and get accustomed to how things work here. Like waiting in line for everything, going to five different stores that each specialize in different items, paying young men to watch your car when you park (even when they don't own the spot or property around it), and dealing with foreign government and importation. After being here for two months we finally got our belongings. It was by the grace of God that we only paid as little as we did for the storage fees with customs. God taught us to be patient and not value "things" more than we should.

It is our desire that God use us to bring the second part of the above verse to pass. Since learning Portuguese will help accomplish this, language school is in full swing and we are enjoying it. I truly look forward to it. Our teachers have been well pleased with our progress and we are beginning to be able to carry on very elementary conversations with the people at church. Cynthia has a much better grasp of pronunciation than I. We have already had several opportunities to minister in limited ways. I have been regularly visiting with Bro. Nash and the men in the church and sit in on home Bible studies sometimes. Cynthia has played a keyboard for services on some occasions. The church has seen three people accept Christ as Savior in the past two weeks and it is always exciting to hear lost people profess Christ. No matter what language it is, a profession of Christ still sounds the same. I am about to explode – "I want to be able to communicate the gospel." In the Lord's time I will know enough Portuguese to lead someone to the Lord.

Many of you have sent letters, emails, and even made phone calls. We are so grateful!
(2 Corinthians 1:11) Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.

...Because He first loved us,

Joel Dickens

Ps. 33:11

P.S. Thank you for your continued prayer and financial support

Prayer Requests

- Continued grace as we settle in and learn the language.
- Safety during the celebration of São João – a supposedly religious festival characterized by partying and immorality – a big and sometimes dangerous event lasting all month long in this city.
- The possibility of a larger house to rent and provision of furniture for larger house.