



David & Connie Johnson

Touching Lives in Brazil with the Gospel

Brazil Gospel Fellowship Mission

Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not. Jer. 33:3



August 2009

Dear Friends,

We've now been in Brazil for two months and a lot has happened. Sorry we didn't write sooner to give you some news.

During these two months we had to stay in Fortaleza for several reasons. First, Connie had a fall the day before we left the U.S. So had to treat her injured knees in Fortaleza. The doctor removed fluid from one; then she had fifteen therapy sessions.

The week after arriving from Brazil, we visited Connie's brother-in-law on his death bed. Lung cancer had destroyed his vocal chords, so he was unable to communicate. But we believe he understood the Bible readings and the presentation of the Gospel. A few days later, he slipped into eternity. We praise the Lord for the opportunity to witness to the family and those attending the funeral. Pray especially for Maurício, Connie's cousin, who is a Bible salesman, but unfamiliar with the Scriptures. He listened attentively and asked many questions.

During those first weeks, we looked for a car, and visited several mission-related churches in the Fortaleza area. Unfortunately we bought a car with a bad engine, so had to resolve that. PTL we were able to get our money back, but then had to start the search again. Meanwhile, we went to visit the Pacajus work. We were glad to see the nice building they built, but were saddened to see few believers. Pray as the Horizonte church works to raise up that congregation again.

When we left the U.S., we were inclined to return to Pacajus. But we praise the Lord for providing several capable and dedicated men from the Horizonte church who are making themselves available. As we visited the Antioch Bible Institute, and consulted with Brazilian and American leadership, the Lord impressed us with the need for teachers. Some students had apparently even considered dropping out.

You all know how we agonized over this decision, praying about it for months; but now we are at peace. The Horizonte church had a hard time accepting our decision, but we are sure that the Lord will bless their renewed efforts with the church plant in Pacajus.

Praise the Lord that we were able to rent a nice apartment over a store. We moved last week and we are still getting settled. It's difficult to find a place in a small town like Jijoca. There's a lot of tourism in the area, since it's close to a famous beach. Pray for a job opportunity for Darlene. She will be teaching one English class at ABI. Classes at the Institute start next week, August 17.

We have a special urgent prayer request for Connie's nephew. Leandro is 32 years old and has cancer, rapidly spreading to vital organs and spine. His mother is brokenhearted. Pray for the family. He's married and has a seven month old baby. Pray for his health and salvation. Pray for our ministry at the Institute, as we teach and minister to the students. Pray for wisdom and funds for a better vehicle. This second one is a 15-year-old diesel pickup. But this one is full of problems, too!! God bless you all. Our love and thanks.

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