

NEWS FROM THE BRUMFIELD FAMILY

July 2010

"LORD... all that we have accomplished, you have done it for us!" (Isaiah 26:12)



Seven students went on the mission trip to Brazil this summer (Left: Joe Carrasco, Donna Brooks, Darrius Woods, Barbara and Ivan Gomez, Dusty and Cheri Nicholson and me). It was very busy and exciting. Our flight from Dallas to Atlanta was so late due to weather that we missed the flight to Brazil. We had to wait 2 days for the next flight so we arrived in Belém, Brazil on Saturday evening, June 5. That was very little time for us to survey Belém since we were leaving for São Luiz Monday morning. We met with the Christian

church, which is called Church of Christ (Igreja de Cristo) there. They were very kind and so respectful to us. They did not use their instruments nor did their women assume any leading role in the assembly. We were able to see the teeming masses of souls of Belém ([2,139,000 people in the metropolitan area in 2008](#)).



We spent June 7-11 in São Luiz, Brazil ([metropolitan area had 1,227,659 in 2008, ranked 16th largest in Brazil](#)). This group of SIBI students were VERY evangelistic. We planned to "test the receptivity" of the people there but these students did NOT stop with testing. They set up Bible studies with these 2 young men pictured on the left and we all met and studied with them a couple of times and spent a lot of time with them. There were many other Bible discussions with lots of other people and the city was certainly confirmed as very receptive by all of us. The multitudes of



lost souls are so overwhelming in that great city. We also got to see the different areas of the city, visit a hospital, malls, housing areas, car lots, take lots of pictures and do some price checking. The basic purposes of a "survey" is to answer some basic questions; 1) Is this a viable place to do effective mission work? 2) Could I and my family move to this city and live and work here? 3) What would it cost to live here? It's kind of like checking out a house before buying it or like sending spies into a land to see if we could go in and take it (Numbers 13).



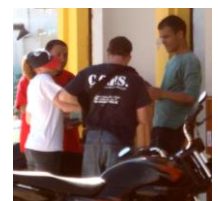
both breakfast and lunch. There were 335 present and we stayed together the whole day. Okay, I feel like I'm bragging here. Only God deserves the glory! He has done amazing things in Salvador! I'm so excited and anxious to see what He will still do there. The singing was awesome and the fellowship with these brothers and sisters was great. Even the students who do not speak Portuguese felt welcomed and loved. The two baptisms we saw were joyful icing on the cake. On the following Sunday the students and I got to do some teaching and preaching. Everything went well. The largest congregation there (located on Bonocô Avenue in Salvador) still meets in the "School of the Bible" building on which they have recently put a new front and added a 3rd floor.

We were in Salvador, Brazil, where we had lived and worked for over 12 years, June 13-15 and 19-20. On Sunday the 13th, we met with the churches of the area in a rented school gym. They served us all,



During the week we spent 3 days doing a campaign in the nearby city of Feira de Santana. It's a very important crossroads city of over 700,000 where the brothers in the state of Bahia want to plant a church. Idalicio, a very dear brother and evangelist from the Salvador area, has recently raised some support and moved there with his family to serve in this mission. His work is limited because he also is doing his studies at the Ebenezer School of

preaching in Recife one week per month. The objective of the campaign was to meet the people of that city and personally invite them to the "Bible Course offered by the School of the Bible of Bahia; The Basic Theology Course; Let the Bible Speak". This is still pretty much the same course I developed over 20 years ago in Salvador. Several brothers joined us from other congregations in Bahia. We had Bible studies each night we were there. The Sunset students impressed me very much. They eagerly talked to every stranger around them and from house to house even though they do not speak the language. Some of them speak Spanish, which is very



close to Portuguese, so they were able to do a lot of good by themselves. Others would find me and get me to talk to those who were interested. The receptivity in Feira de Santana was very high. We were able to engage so many souls who seemed to be seeking.



We spent June 21-27 in Aracajú, Brazil. We again did a 3-day campaign, inviting the masses to come study the Bible at the School of the Bible. Several brothers and sisters of the area congregations joined us in the campaign even though half of the time it was raining. We also got to teach some in the school. It was great to see the SIBI students (the men of course) teaching these visitors about the church in the New Testament.

During the last 3 days that the students were with me, we participated in the annual area-wide church camp near Aracajú. It was more like a lectureship. The theme was; "Our Mission More Urgent – SAVING SOULS". There were two baptisms during camp. Randy Warzecha (on the far right in the picture on the right) has done a fabulous job of preparing the Saints to do their work of service. Though he has been the prime organizer of this annual retreat in the past, he did little organizing this year. The brothers took care of the whole thing. It was very edifying and for me, even thrilling. The churches in that state of Sergipe are evangelistic, growing and planting churches.



On June 27, the students returned to the US and I returned to Belém to help the Belém Mission Team move into their new mission point. In the forefront, Brian and Melissa (our daughter) and Josiah King (our wonderful grandson) had arrived several days before me. Nick, Amy and Jonah Fowler arrived maybe a day before me. Belém is only a couple of degrees from the equator so the temperature is around 95 degrees in the day. It rains most days and so the humidity is over 80%. It is a "tropical paradise" if you like it to be very hot and very muggy. The Kings had already gotten registered with the federal police and requested their "CPF" (like a social security / tax number) so we helped the Fowlers do the same thing. Then we looked at lots of apartments. The prices were simply beyond our expectations and beyond their budgets so we started looking in more distant areas of the city. The Kings decided on a small, 13th floor apartment in the barrio (neighborhood) of Marco, about 25 minute drive from the center of Belém. After having the rent contract examined by a brother in Salvador, they paid a deposit, signed the contract (pictured here), bought a washer, refrigerator and stove, got the electricity turned on and moved in. Wow, that sounded easy but it was a lot more complicated than it sounds.



The Fowlers decided on an apartment near the center, but when we had the rental contract examined we requested a couple of changes. They were unwilling to make one of those changes and they ended up not renting that apartment. After I had already returned to the US they found another apartment. After having the contract examined we requested some changes and the Fowlers were able to accept the contract and have since moved in. Apartments in Brazil usually do not come with stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, closets, kitchen cabinets, light fixtures, water heaters, air conditioners or commode lids. The renter is responsible for providing all of that. Often the renter is also fully responsible for any and all maintenance and repairs. In order to move in, both the Kings and the Fowlers paid a deposit in the value of 3 months rent. It takes a lot of time to get the apartments set up. For example, when you buy kitchen cabinets the stores says they will be delivered within 3 days. You then must stay at home waiting for them to be delivered. They may be delivered on the 4th day. Then when they arrive, the delivery people say that the people who assemble them will come within 3 days so you have to stay at home waiting for 3 more days but they may come on the 4th day. This same kind of thing happens with much of the furniture and appliances and by the end of it, culture shock may well have fully set in. Then you add language classes to this mix and it can get to be quite a burden. Please pray for the Belém, Brazil Mission team as they set up, learn Portuguese and adjust to the culture.

Brothers, we want to thank you all for supporting us and also all of you who helped us with the Mission Trip. Some of us were not able to raise enough support for that trip and so we ended up owing a good bit. Please pray for the fruit of this trip, that some of those students will make the decision to serve in a fruitful mission field and please continue praying for us, that we will proclaim the Gospel wisely and boldly as we ought. Thank you from the bottom of our heart,



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Me, Janet, Jesse and his sweet girlfriend Brittany