TEEN WILLING TO SERVE

Read how God has blessed the servant's heart of a 15 year-old boy in Brazil.

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CELEBRATING GOOD NEWS

We are rejoicing with Jud Hatcher as he shares some great news!

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BFM OUTREACH

BFM was represented at the first CBTS National Conference in March.

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8 YEARS OF CARAGUA BC

Caragua Baptist Church in Caraguatatuba is celebrating their 8th anniversary.

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BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS by Mews & Reports

Assisting Baptist churches to send God-called missionaries to fulfill church-planting missions in the nations of the world

FIRST RIVER MISSION TRIP OF 2022



Mike & Beverly Creiglow mdcreig@hotmail.com Caixa Postal 24 Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre,

Brazil 69980

March 28, 2022 Dear Brethren,

Back on the river again! Yeah! Several days ago I was able to get my boat and motor ready for the first river mission trip of 2022. Manoel went with me to the upper Juruá River. We have had a lot of rain and the river is full. We caught it at the perfect stage: full, but not too many logs coming down.

We left at a little before 6:00AM. We went all the way to the border the first day. It took us 11 hours. I didn't eat anything all day. We got in at just after 5:00 that afternoon. It hadn't come to mind that it was Wednesday. That meant that we would just have time for a bath before time for services. We had a really good crowd and I really enjoyed speaking to the congregation from Matthew 6:33. It wasn't until after 9:00PM that I had something to eat. I was so tired after all the piloting and preaching of the day that I wasn't sure which was going to be better, food or sleep. The first night on a ¾ inch sleeping mat in a tent is usually not that great. This time was better than great.

From Foz do Breu we continued across the border to Tipisca in Peru. It is only another hour upriver with my 60HP and the river was going down, so it was one of the easiest trips ever on that section of river. We had a couple of days of sunshine, so most of the mud had dried up. That made the mile hike with all our gear on our backs much easier.

The visit with our missionary couple, José Maia and Silvânia was really good. While there I was privileged to meet a couple from Paraguay who comes to Tipisca twice a year to help José Maia. It was fascinating to talk

to Fritz and Ana Elize. They are both from separate German Mennonite colonies in Paraguay. They both ended up in Canada studying at different stages of their lives in different schools. They knew of each other back in Paraguay, but didn't come together until later in life. They married in their middle age and are now missionaries. He works as a professor at a seminary in Pucalpa, Peru that specializes in training indigenous workers. She works in the offices there. During their breaks between semesters, they come to Tipisca to help out. They had always dreamed of working with unreached peoples. Fortunately, you might say, there aren't many of those anymore. Tipisca offers many opportunities though as there is a confluence of 4 different ethnic groups in the town. They have fallen in love with Tipisca and the folks there. That is nothing less than a miracle, as there is not much to love about Tipisca! You would only need a few minutes there to understand what I mean.

They had dinner with us at Jose's house. They invited me to have breakfast with them the next day. They speak Spanish (obviously), but also are fluent in English and German. At dinner they mentioned that they understood not a word that Manoel spoke (Portuguese). Everyone has a hard time understanding Manoel. He seems to always have a mouth full of marbles. They mentioned that they don't understand much of what José and his wife say when they are speaking Portuguese. They were surprised that they were able to understand almost all of my Portuguese. Even though I don't speak much Spanish, I know how to make the adjustments so Spanish speakers can follow my Portuguese. At breakfast the next day was just English. It was Manoel's turn to just sit there and not understand a single word. We had a great visit though and shared a ton of information. Very edifying.

We came back to Foz do Breu to spend a couple more days. The tropical rains started up again. On Sunday we had 24 hours nonstop. The river had gone way down, but in just a couple of hours it was on its way back up. Even with all the rain we had big crowds in all services. On Sunday morning I baptized 10 new members. The rain let up just a little and long enough to get in the baptismal service.

The morning we left to come back to Cruzeiro do Sul it was just a light mist at 5:30ÁM. Within just a few minutes the rains started again. My windshield wiper on my boat is manual. I spent the whole day cranking the wiper while jock-eying the throttle and helm. The Juruá River and all her tributaries were pumping out new flood waters from all the rain. The rivers were also pumping out a steady flow of logs. It was a challenge, to say the least. I have done this all my life though. I was cold and worn out by time I got back to the house late in the afternoon. After a warm shower and a hot meal prepared by my beautiful Beverly Jean all was well again.

What isn't well are the gas prices, as you guys are now finding out. Ours is "just" \$6.20 a gallon. How about yours? Running these motors on these trips has always been expen-





Baptism at Foz do Breu



Mike Creiglow at the dinner table with missionaries José Maia, his wife Silvânia, and the couple from Paraguay

sive, but the investment is worth it.

Thanks for all of your prayers and support. God bless you as much as He has us.

In Christ, Mike Creiglow –NEWS & REPORTS –



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May God give them wisdom and discernment as they prayerfully make decisions.

ADJUSTING BACK TO LIFE IN KENYA



Nathan & Carrie Radford

naterad@yahoo.com P.O. Box 4150 Kitale, Kenya East Africa, 30200

March 5, 2022

Dear praying friends,

Another month has come and gone, and we are already into the third month of 2022. Time passes so fast, and may we be busy in our service to the Lord. This prayer letter will share current prayer requests, as well as update you on my (Nathan's) upcoming ministry plans.

I am in the process of recruiting potential younger Kenyan men to disciple, train, and send out to start churches in their village areas. I have spoken with different men who have lived in Africa or are living in Africa about church planting, and they had a basic model to follow: recruit the men, (preferably men who are already employed), disciple them so they have a firm foundation in their faith, then send them out to villages to start churches.

This is the model I followed this past term, and it was the best progress of any prior term. Unfortunately, covid came to Kenya and we had to close things down. Now that it is possible to meet again, by practicing social distancing, and also masks are encouraged, we can continue.

Lord willing, I plan to start in a village called Taito, which is about a fifteen-minute drive from Kitale town. In all these endeavors, it is God that gives the increase. I am reminded of 1 Corinthians 3:6, where Paul says, "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase." Amen. It is the same today. We must trust God for the results in all our endeavors.

In family news, our daughters have adjusted well back to life here in Kenya. They are homeschooling, and my wife is doing a great job teaching them. She is very qualified, and I am blessed with all the sacrifices she makes daily, and for our family. Please pray both for her and our daughters as they continue along in this school year.

There have been many changes in the missionary community since we have returned, and unfortunately, the family that had a daughter our daughter's ages moved away to another area. We are blessed that there are some Kenyan girls nearby who speak good English, and they are invited to play with them at any time. This is a major blessing. Would you please pray with us that God would provide other families with daughters that could be friends with our daughters? This is a big prayer request for us now, and we are waiting upon the Lord. Psalm 27:14 says, "Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD." May we wait in faith, trusting Him each step of the way.

Thanks so much to each of you for your heart for missions. We appreciate the prayers, sacrificial giving, and letters so much. May God bless each

Until next month, Nathan and Carrie

OUR GOD — THE GREAT ORCHESTRATOR



Roger & Julie Tate

rojuta@gmail.com P.O. Box 96 Kitale, Kenya East Africá, 30200

March 30, 2022

Greetings in the name of Jesus

So much has happened since I wrote to you all last time. When I wrote to you last time absolutely none of what I'm about to tell you about was even a thought in our heads. I guess a lot can happen in just one or two months.

Yes, we are still in Kenya. No, we are not currently in our hometown of Kitale. We are currently living in a town called Kijabe. Let me explain how it happened and why and what has transpired since we arrived here.

As you all know by now, Julie and I have legal guardianship of Chloe and our great desire is for the Kenyan government to allow

us to adopt her. Since there is a long story short. We believe God moratorium on foreign adoption right now, we have to wait for that to happen. As you also know, Chloe has been diagnosed with Autism and there are several severe challenges that come with Chloe's particular case: Violence, melt-downs, extreme emotional dis-regulation, sensory overload, behavior challenges, learning challenges and even physical challenges. All of this has been taking a toll on Chloe, Julie and me. We were in desperate need of help. Julie had tried and tried to get help from organizations and doctors in Kitale and even in the Eldoret area. No help was forthcoming anywhere near Kitale. Every organization and doctor that we would meet with would say to Julie, "Wow, Julie. You know so much more about this than we do. You could teach us about this". Hmmm. Not helpful.

I'm going to try and make a

heard our cries of desperation. We believe this because we could not have orchestrated ourselves getting into the position we are currently in. Julie awoke from sleep one night remembering that we had friends who had a son who was an Occupational Therapist at a mission hospital in Kijabe. What happened after that were many great turns of events with God orchestrating things very quickly to get us to Kijabe where some help might be available. From the time Julie woke up that night to the time we arrived at this temporary house we are living in was 17 days. That might not sound very quick, but, believe me, that was quick.

Now we are in Kijabe, home of a local mission hospital and about 40 miles from Nairobi, where additional help has been forthcoming. This sounds overwhelming (and it is) but Chloe is now seeing a team of



EBRATING 8 YEARS OF CARAGUA BAPTIST CHURCH!



AJ & Barbara Hensley ajcaragua@gmail.com 30524 Mimi St Sebring, FL 33870-0530 859-539-1424 Barb 859-539-2302 Aj

March 16, 2022 Dear friends and family,

Time seems to be so short and seems that I am always running behind (this is maybe because of my

maturity—age).

We have just finished two seminary classes in São Paulo taught by Pastor Raymond Edge of First Baptist Church of Bastrop, Texas. The classes were Old Testament Survey and an elective from the Old Testament, the book of Jonah. Our plans were to have these classes in person and to do zoom classes also; however, circumstances (COVID and finances) only allowed us to do the zoom classes.

Barbara and I are planning to be in Brazil for March and April. We will be visiting family in Caraguatatuba, São Paulo. While there, I will be preaching in a meeting at Caragua Baptist Church for the 8-year anniversary of the church. This will be the 26th and the 27th of March. It is AWESOME to participate in celebrating these 8 years of this church spreading God's Word in Brazil.

While preaching and visiting in Caragua, I will also be visiting São Paulo and meeting with several pastors and two churches. São Paulo has just lowered its COVID 19 level, and this will allow me to travel more freely.

Please be praying for these pastors as their churches have lots of fear about COVID-19 and their financial ability to properly fight the pandemic. Not so different as from here, but there somewhat more severe.

The Bibles for the Guarani Indians have not arrived as of yet. I am hoping to be able to deliver them while there. How AWESOME will it be to be able to read God's word in their own language. Pastor Valdeval, the missionary working with these Indians, is now out of the hospital and doing well. We have been friends and have worked with him for 10 years. We were happy for him to get out of the hospital and hope to be able to see him when we are there.

Dr. Derek and I along with our wives will be going to a Pastors Conference in Recife representing Bluegrass Baptist Seminary and the work being done, talking to the pastors and those in attendance on July 18–22. Pray for this upcoming trip as we work to continue to teach God's Word in Brazil. Thanks to all of you for the continuing prayers and contributions for the work God has called us to do here in Brazil. Without both of those we would have a greater problem doing our work. Thanks to Baptist Faith Missions and all the churches who support our missionaries. Keep up the good work.

In His service, Aj and Barbara

More pictures online! bfmnow.org/faithworks-blog



Pastor Valdival and wife Rosa with the Hensleys & Quaresmas



Caragua Baptist Church in Caraguatatuba, São Paulo, Brazil

Continued from page 2

people who are all attempting to help her and us: Occupational therapist, physical therapist, psychologist, developmental pediatrician, gastro doctor, ABA therapist, to name a few. Some of this team is in Kijabe and others in Nairobi and it keeps us hopping and very busy, believe me. But, it is giving us hope that we can find the help for Chloe that she needs. We don't know exactly how long we will be here but this house we are currently living in is available only until the end of July and housing is very difficult to get here in Kijabe. I also don't exactly know how to ask you to pray for us except to pray that Chloe and our family can get the help we desperately need.

In addition to all this, God orchestrated one other thing (among many others). While I was here, I went to an ENT doctor at the mission hospital on account of my severe snoring and sleep apnea. He is a world class doctor from the States but was only going to be here

for a couple of months. Another long story made short is I ended up having surgery here in Kenya (a scary thought) on my nose and throat. The surgery I had consisted of many procedures in both my nose and throat. I was supposed to spend two nights in the hospital but after the first miserable night I begged the doctor to send me home (it seemed like anything and everything the hospital could have done to make my night more miserable was done). My first week of

recovery was pretty rough. I lost 14 pounds in 10 days as I couldn't eat anything solid. But now I am pretty much on the mend (4 weeks later) and Julie says it has already helped with both my snoring and my sleep apnea.

Praise God for all he is orchestrating in our lives right now. None of it has been easy, but we praise Him because we truly believe it is coming from Him.

Blessings to you all, Roger, Julie & Chloe

MARVELING AT GOD'S CREATION, CELEBRATING GOOD NEWS



udson & Raauel Hatcher judsonhatcher@gmail.com 800 Michigan St Wheaton, IL 60187 (859) 317-1192 São Paulo, Brasil

March 29, 2022 Dear friends,

March was packed with excitement for our family. My parents came to visit us in Wheaton, IL from Florida. It was short but sweet! Truly blessed by them. Melissa received the school district's superintendent art award. This month we also celebrated Benjamin's 14th and Sarah's 17th birthdays. The Lord blesses us to see our children grow physically and in their knowledge of Christ with the desire to serve Him. We thank the Lord for them. What made this month particularly unique was the confirmation from my oncologist (based on the imaging and blood

exams). I am cancer free! We bless the Lord and thank Him for His healing hand. Thank you for your prayers during this treatment time.

So, how did we celebrate? Raquel suggested that we marvel at God's mighty creation handiwork by going to the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago. We love admiring His creation. We especially loved visiting the "Amazon" display. Seeing the variety of fish, fauna, and flora common to us felt like home. Four of us were born in Manaus, a city in the heart of the Amazon basin. We saw the largest fish, the pirarucu (which can grow more than ten ft. long) to the most vicious of fish, the piranha. (All of which we have stories to speak of and know what they taste like.) We watched the beluga whale show, the dolphins and the penguins,

water fish. It was a special day to admire the details of God's fancy work within His creation. We were impressed! Part of our discussion that day contrasted what we observed with mankind, which was created in the triune God's image. Yes, we are Imago Dei. Dolphins may be more intelligent than other mammals. But we are much more; we were designed in His likeness. Furthermore, He made us His chosen people through Christ Jesus. What a way to celebrate birthdays and cancer-free news!

This month three people surrendered to Christ in São Paulo. Preparations are underway for an evangelistic campaign during April. Pray with us and the leadership teams in Brazil for success in pointing people to Christ and

the seawater fish and the fresh- people within the community to surrender to Him. This month I also was privileged to speak at the Addyston Baptist Church men's retreat at West Harris, IN. Several churches participated in this marvelous weekend. Thank you Pastors Philip duBarry and David Pitman for organizing this event. I was also honored to share about our ministry and to preach at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Bellbrook, OH. What a wonderful weekend with church people, Pastor Darrell & Mrs. Messer. By invitation of Jarell & Beverly Sill (second cousins of mine), I managed to squeeze in a visit with my great Uncle Joe and Aunt Jessie Sills in Cincinnati, OH.

> Grateful always, Judson & Raquel

More pictures online! bfmnow.org/faithworks-blog



The Hatchers at Shedd Aquarium in Chicago



Melissa with the Superintendent's Art Award



Judson, Sarah, Wanda, Paul, & Laura



Judson & Benjamin with their Great Uncle Joe & Aunt Jessie Sills in Cincinnati, Ohio



Judson & Benjamin with The Messers in Bellbrook, Ohio



Judson & Philip DuBarry at the Addyston Baptist Church Men's Retreat

APRIL 2022

BLESSINGS IN UBIM



Odali & Kathy Barros odali_kathy@hotmail.com Iranduba, Amazonas Brasil, S.A.

March 24, 2022 Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We pray and hope that all of you dear friends are doing well! We are doing well. Thank God things are doing well and getting back to normal. We are being able to start back our services in the different communities. We are making plans to have special programs in these different communities and also have some special programs in schools. Since distance is a problem here, we want to go into the communities. One of the things that we are planning is to have a

special pizza day in each of these places and different schools. If you would like to help us with this project, we would be grateful. We figure that it will cost around \$400.00 for the places we plan on going.

Our Friday services in homes is doing well. In the village of Ubim, we have started night services. Kathy has been going there for 7 years and works with 50 to 60 kids under 15. Pray as we have services and reach out to the adults and families there.

At the main church, Pedras Vivas, we are doing fine and still working on training adults for different ministries. We hope and pray that they will see the need more and more to reach out to the lost people around us.

A special thing happened with one of the teenagers who stays here with us most of the week. He has helped Kathy in Ubim for several months. He wanted to continue helping there but because of being in school he couldn't go. But he decided to ask the principal if on Monday he could leave a little earlier to go with Kathy. The principal said sure, bring a letter from your pastor saying that you're going there to help every week. So, he took the letter. The day he went to talk to the principal it was a different person. She



Gabriel (15) playing the guitar in Ubim

seemed to be giving him a hard time. After questioning him a lot he thought that she was going to say he couldn't go. But was he surprised!!!! She said, you can go, and I also want you to play some praise songs here at the school and talk about God! He sent Kathy a message totally surprised!!!!!

Praise the Lord. Pray for the teen. His name is Gabriel, and he is 15 years old.

W e thank God for each one of you who pray and support our ministry.

God bless each of you! Love in Christ, Odali and Kathy Barros





Friday Night Service in a home



Playing with the kids in Ubim

- NEWS & REPORTS -

bfm

REJOICING OVER A NEW BELIEVER IN FRANCE



JOhn Mark & Judy Hatcher JMHatcher@aol.com 4, rue d'Aspin 31170 Tournefeuille, France

March 17, 2022 Dear Co-Laborers in Christ,

We hope this finds you enjoying the presence of the Lord in your life. Judy and I just returned from Florida where we spent just over three weeks taking care of my dad while my brother Paul recovered from a hernia surgery—a hernia brought on by physically managing the care of our father. We are grateful beyond words for the care that Paul and Wanda continue to joyfully give. After forty years of service in Brazil they moved to the USA to care for Mom, Dad and Wanda's mother. The two mothers moved in the presence of the Lord four years ago. Dad and Mom were missionaries serving with support through Baptist Faith Missions for 60 years in three different regions of Brazil. Dad is now very limited mentally and physically.

God has continued to work through His people here in France. Three weeks ago, Timo, an eighteen-year-old young man, contacted Philip indicating that he wanted to follow the Lord in baptism. He has been coming to church activities along with his family since he was in grade school. Timo has clearly expressed his faith in Christ for the last few months and grown spiritually in a very evident way. This is a great encouragement to us.

Some have asked us how far we are from the events in Ukraine. There are about two thousand miles between us and the ongoing conflict. Thank you for your concern and remember to pray for believers who are on site and people who need Christ in Ukraine and Russia.

Thank you for your faithful support in many different ways.

Your brother and sister in Christ, John and Judy Hatcher



@ CBTS National Conference #CovCon2O22

An Update from Pastor David Pitman, Field Representative

We are thankful for opportunities to introduce BFM to new friends. We are available to present at conferences and at churches. In March, Jonathan Turner, Darrell Messer, and I met over 250 registrants at the first CBTS National conference in Louisville, Kentucky. The conference was also live-streamed to an audience, in English and Spanish, averaging 150 viewers. Our 90 second advertisement, prepared by Philip Hatcher, was broadcast repeatedly throughout the conference and live-stream. We were delighted to meet Paul Washer who was first introduced to missions by our beloved Homer Crain, longtime BFM missionary in Peru.



We were delighted to meet Paul Washer who was first introduced to missions by our beloved Homer Crain, longtime BFM missionary in Peru.



Chatting with attendees



Ad for BFM in the conference program



Directors Jonathan Turner & David Pitman



NEWS & REPORTS -

MISSION EXPEDITION TO DELMIRO GOUVEIA – ALAGOAS, BRAZIL

From Bobby Wacaser:

Projeto Vida (Project Life) is an NGO (non-government-organization) and not-for-profit mission organization. It was founded and has operated since March 1997. Projeto Vida's strategy is to evangelize through community services, education, sports, music, theatrical arts, literacy and technical job training. All these means are used to share the gospel of Jesus Christ to those outside the walls of the church building.

Our team travels throughout Brazil and South America to remote towns and cities ministering in public schools, parks and town squares. The platform used to open doors by Projeto Vida is to address social ills such as drug abuse, depression, suicide, self-mutilation, teen pregnancy, bullying, and sexually transmitted diseases. A personal relationship with Jesus Christ is presented as the solution to every issue and the team presents this good news through drama, choreographed music, testimonies, and evangelistic messages.

The travel team has a tremendous opportunity and challenge ahead, to take the Gospel to the northeast region of Brazil. Specifically, the team will be traveling to the rural area of the state of Alagoas where a population of over 15 million inhabitants live and less than 1% is evangelized. In this region there are over 10,000 towns without a single evangelical church.

In addition to the region's dire evangelical situation is the added burden of social and economic poverty. This rural zone of the northeast of Brazil presents the worst cases of illiteracy, mal-nutrition, school dropouts, and poor health care.

We believe that only the Gospel can radically, profoundly, and eternally transform the inhabitants of northeastern Brazil. This desperately needy region continues to wait for the good news of God's love, peace, and redemption in Jesus Christ. Our team plans to travel to them, sharing God's love through community services, evangelistic skits, testimonies, and personal evangelism.

We believe the task of reaching these unreached people is an urgent need. We alone can not reach every one of these 15 million citizens, but with your help we can reach many of them.

Our team will, by God's grace, be going to the city of Delmiro Gouveia, in Alagoas state. The population of this city in a rural region is more than 50,000. The distance from our headquarters here in Curitiba, Parana is 1,800 miles.

In the month of May 2022, our team of 20 evangelists plans to go to this town and the surrounding area to minister and win the lost to Christ.

The challenges of this expedition are great. Some are spiritual, some emotional and others financial. The trip will be 18 days in a 21-passenger travel van. You can help with your prayers for the Lord's protection over the team, vehicle, and equipment. You can also help with financial assistance by giving toward the expenses in detail below.

Expense Description	Amount (US \$)
Fuel	\$ 2,200.00
Highway Tolls	\$ 150.00
Meals	\$ 3,100.00
Van Maintenance	\$ 560.00
Bibles & Tracts	\$ 580.00
Total Cost	\$ 6,590.00



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ONLINE EDITION

PRAY & PRAISE

- ▶ ODALI & KATHY BARROS: PRAISE GOD for how well the Friday services in homes are going! PRAY as they continue to reach out to different communities. PRAISE GOD for blessing Gabriel with an opportunity to minister in Ubim and his school! [PAGE 5]
- ► MIKE & BEVERLY CREIGLOW: PRAISE GOD for how He blessed the river trip! PRAY for José Maia and Silvânia. PRAY the Lord would continue to provide their needs for fuel to make these trips. [PAGE 1]
- ▶ JOHN MARK & JUDY HATCHER: PRAISE GOD for Paul and Wanda caring for John Sr.! PRAY for those in Ukraine and Russia. PRAISE GOD for Timo! [PAGE 6]
- ▶ JUD & RAQUEL HATCHER: PRAISE GOD for His healing hand! PRAY for the new believers in São Paulo. [PAGE 4]
- ► AJ & BARBARA HENSLEY: PRAISE GOD for the 8th anniversary of Caragua Baptist Church! PRAY for the pastors in São Paulo.
- ▶ NATHAN & CARRIE RADFORD: PRAISE GOD that their daughters have adjusted well back to Kenya! PRAY as they homeschool PRAY for the Lord to prepare and provide young Kenyan men to disciple and train for church planting. [PAGE 2]
- ► ROGER & JULIE TATE: PRAISE GOD for orchestrating so many events to get them the help they need! PRAY for Chloe and her team of doctors. [PAGE 2]
- **▶ BOBBY & CHARLENE WACASER:** PRAISE GOD for how He is working in and through Francisco! PRAY as they begin a new ministry to inmates. [PAGE 8]





FALSE ACCUSATION LEADS TO POSITIVE OPPORTUNITY



Bobby & Charléne Wacaser

bobbymichael_1@hotmail.com Rua Laudelino Ferreira Lopes, 279 Sobrado 1, Novo Mundo 81050-310 Curitiba, PR. Brasil

March 23, 2022 Dear Friends,

We are often looking for opportunities to get the message of the gospel out to people who wouldn't ordinarily receive it, and we pray for guidance so that we can recognize those opportunities when they arise. The Lord recently answered those prayers with an opportunity that I couldn't have imagined if I tried to for a hundred years.

In May of 2021 I wrote about a man who had been a Satan-worshiper for many years that had been won to Christ by the witness and behavior of his teenage daughter who attended our church. After his conversion and baptism, he had begun to study the Bible and was growing steadily in his walk with the Lord. An amazing orchestration of events turned that man into a vessel of God in getting the gospel to men incarcerated in the jail system here in our state. After living decades in sinful behavior, but never suffering legal repercussions, he was falsely accused of assaulting a young woman and ended up in jail for several months awaiting judgement. He had shared with me that he was not guilty of the accusation, and I had given him a small Bible that he could easily keep with him and read while incarcerated. After all the investigations and testimonies, he was released last month. The amazing opportunity that I mentioned earlier is that, while in jail, he began to devour the Word of God daily and his spiritual life developed tremendously. Instead of being angry and upset that he was falsely imprisoned, he saw that God had placed him in there for a reason, so he sought to serve the Lord faithfully in his predicament. He told

me that his situation there helped him to more fully appreciate how Jesus willingly died our substitutionary death on the cross, though He himself had never committed a sin. His name is Francisco, and now he and I are developing a ministry where he'll use his inside knowledge of life in jail to reach the inmates with the message of God's grace and forgiveness in Christ. He is presently working on obtaining his chaplain's license and he and I meet from time to time to discuss how to implement this new ministry most effectively. We are also combining our Projeto Vida team's gospel skit presentations to accompany Francisco on some of his visits to the inmates. I would never have dreamed that a false accusation could turn out as such a positive opportunity, but I am extremely thankful that the Lord doesn't need to wait on my creativity to provide doors for sharing the gospel. Francisco told me recently that being arrested and sent to jail is the second-best thing that has happened to him. The first, his being saved by God's grace.

We finally "bit the bullet" so to speak and began having double worship services on Sundays. Our attendance had reached near standing room only, so we knew we had to make the decision soon. We had an excellent turnout on our first Sunday and a lot of our folks helped us by choosing to attend the service that wouldn't normally be considered regular "church time." By their doing this, space was freed up for both services' attendance to grow without overcrowding. We are so thankful to the Lord for this growth "problem" and I'm grateful that our people are willing to step out of their comfort zone in order to grow God's kingdom.

Charlene and I are grateful to you who pray for us and give so that we can focus on God's calling on our lives to plant churches and disciple new converts.

In Christ's love, Bobby and Charlene Wacaser





