



# THE DICKENS FAMILY TO BRAZIL

January 2004

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Dear Praying Saints,

(1 Corinthians 1:4) I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ;

Although I am sure that my prayer life is not nearly as powerful as Paul's, there are so many of you that I know God is blessing for all that you have done for us. Last month we were overwhelmed by all of your gifts, cards, and notes of love for us during Christmas. We had such a wonderful time visiting with our families for what will probably be our last Christmas in the states for some years. This also means that as the New Year gets into full swing, we are turning a new page in our lives. We are anticipating being able to make plans soon for Brazil.

Among the many gifts that were sent last month, we watched the Lord increase our support to 73%. Praise God for His great provision! We endured the boys both going through the flu, and then Aydan dealing with bronchialitis, double ear infections, and very mild pneumonia. God was good and everyone is healing, but poor Cynthia has been out of church for what seemed like an eternity. When the boys are sick, no one comforts like mom. We were able to witness a young girl and an adult get saved in our home church following the Christmas program put on by the children's church and young people.

Now as we turn that new page, we are going to be busy with meetings and conferences. We are excited about challenging more saints about Brazil and missions and full time service. Pray for God's wisdom as we consider language school and preparations for Brazil. Pray for traveling mercies and continued increase in support. Pray for our home church; we will soon be voting on a new pastor. Pray for the health of the boys as they seem to be catching every little cold on the planet. If you have never done it, consider giving your life to the Lord and serve Him full time; it is so exciting to watch the Lord work through a life.

We are the most blessed of all missionaries for we have all of you interested and praying for this ministry God has called us to.

...Because He first loved us,

Rev. Joel Dickens  
Psalm 33:11

P.S. Thank you for your prayer support