



Dickens Family To Brazil

September 2005

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Dear Praying Saints,

(Mark 13:31) "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." The confidence that we as Christians have is based solely on our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and His precious Holy Word. This is the confidence that shores up our hearts and minds when we are trying to know the perfect will of the Lord. Our Lord knows His best for our lives and He directs us in every decision that we need to make. No, we're not thinking about leaving Brazil. Good night! We just started language school; its way too early to want to quit. Besides God is working around here and there is too much to do.

We are having "little Dickens # 4". Cynthia thought she might be pregnant about the middle of July, so we took "the test" (which by the way is not easy to find when you are not sure what you are looking for and you spent the night before memorizing the word out of the dictionary so you could ask at the pharmacy). Come to find out, she is. The boys want a girl for Daniella; Daniella is oblivious to the situation; and we just want the baby and mommy to be well. Cynthia has made it through the morning sickness just fine, and her blood sugars have been doing well too. We have found an OB here in the city and a doctor in Recife who can help with the insulin pump. Lord willing we will be having this one here in Brazil. It has been a hard decision, but one that I feel is the Lord's will. It is going to require much prayer and the hand of the Lord.

Language school is continuing with much work. We are learning how to conjugate verbs and other fun things. It is exciting to gain a grasp of a new language and be able to communicate and laugh at yourself. I preached my first message to the ladies in the church (never done that before in any language). I was asked a question at the end and answered that Cynthia's primary responsibility was "killing" the children in the home. I meant "maintaining," but if you pronounce a vowel wrong you can really confuse people. I have begun assisting the church with coordinating the youth meetings on Saturdays and Lord willing we will reach some new young people for the Lord.

God is still in the saving business. When we first arrived, I met a young man whose brother-in-law is a member of the church. As he was cutting my hair I asked him if he was saved. He answered, "No." Little did I know he had been being witnessed to, and was getting close to making a decision. We began praying and last month at the end of the Wednesday service, he and his wife trusted Christ. AMEN! That's the confidence that we have in the Lord. Even as inadequate and incapable as we are in the language, we can still pray. What a great God. There are many others we are praying for and several cities that already have people wanting to start a church. In the Lord's time we will have the ability to help.

You are all so faithful to hold the ropes for us day after day and month after month. Thank you all for continuing to be our faithful co-laborers in this ministry

If you have an email address to send the prayer letter to, and would rather it come that way, you can respond to us at the following email address: obxmissionaries@earthlink.net. Thank you for this and feel free to contact us for any reason. We love to hear from all of our praying friends

...Because He first loved us,
Joel Dickens
Ps. 33:11

P.S. Thank you for your continued prayer support

Prayer Requests

- Health and safety for Cynthia and the baby.
- Doctor's wisdom as they treat Cynthia and help her with her diabetes and the pump.
- Language school
- God's provision as we have found a larger house and will move in December. We, of course, need to buy furniture for it.
- Souls to be saved here in Caruaru
- Wisdom in the coming months.