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“Baptizing Them”



After several months of waiting and trying to get the baptistery built and prepared we were able to baptize three on the 12th of September. We now have a baptistery in the building that we are renting and we can baptize new converts without having to come up with a way to rent a pool or take everyone to the river. Cross County Baptist Church, Faith Baptist Church, and the Jett family gave generously to help us with this project and we thank you for your gifts and prayer. Josivaldo, Aeldo and Suzineide were all baptized and each one was excited to be able to follow their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Aeldo and Suzineide became emotional after waiting for more than a year since they trusted Christ. Suzineide struggled up

until she climbed into the water over her fear of water. We learned though that we need to put a little less water in the baptistery as it overflowed, but those are the small things. That night we had more than 30 in attendance and several of the newer converts including at least two teenagers wanted to know if they could be baptized next. One boy misunderstood my excitement about having the new baptistery by telling the others that I would be baptizing every week. I said, “Now I CAN baptize every week!” Not that I would. That all depends on us “all of us” winning souls to Christ. Thank you for your prayers and support.



“Caused Them to Understand the Reading”

We continue to hold services in the rural area called “Bola 2”. Recently, I realized that I needed to change the manner that I was holding the services in this area. We have been going there and preaching once a month for about 6 months now with few decisions, but the people come faithfully and we have great crowds each time. The conclusion that I came to was that the people just were not understanding the gospel message because they needed to know other stories of the Bible which teach that message and the necessity for that message. With that in mind, I have begun teaching some basic Bible stories like

creation so that the people will come to understand the necessity to trust Christ as their Savior.

What is amazing is the biblical illiteracy in a country where so many speak of God with such openness and yet know nothing of who He truly is. Please be praying for these services in “Bola 2”. Satan would like nothing more than to keep these precious souls blinded to the glorious gospel of Christ and he seems to be battling our efforts there with fear on the part of some to make decisions for Christ. We know that

only the power of the Holy Spirit can save the precious souls of Glauciane, Geisiane, Bia, Leta, Zé, Renã, Girlene, Ediane, and others.

We are so thankful to have such tremendous ministry partners supporting us and praying for us while we continue this ministry here in the interior of Brazil. The souls to whom we minister will one day be able to thank you as well.



We have a website! Please, check it out.
www.dickensstory.com

Those Little Dickens!

As I was moving about the house one day, I heard the kids playing in the living room. They had set up a scene with their toys which I could not see, but their conversation quickly told the story. It went something like this:

Morgan: **Put him over there, because he’s the preacher.**
(rustling noises as the aforementioned “him” was moved to the appropriate position)
 Daniella: **And this one over here! She needs to be baptized.**
 Aydan (quickly): **NO! She can’t be baptized!**

I was waiting for some explanation as to why that particular toy was found unsuitable as a candidate for baptism. I figured it must have had to do with the fact that, in their play, “she” wasn’t saved or something along those lines. The answer was forthcoming:

Morgan (seriously): **Because this is a GI Joe church. Your ponies cannot be baptized!**

Special Prayer Requests

- GROWTH OF NEW CONVERTS
- MISSIONARY FRIENDS: POLLARD FAMILY
- SALVATION DECISIONS OF VISITORS
- THE STRUGGLING DOLLAR
- UNDERSTANDING AND SALVATIONS OF THE PEOPLE IN BOLA 2

From Her Perspective

Cynthia Dickens

While I was making lunch, I heard Aydan, Daniella and Abigail playing in the boys’ room. Aydan had just told Abigail that she could not sit on his newly made bed. Well, Abigail is ornery even on a good day, so from what I could tell (without actually seeing them) she promptly planted herself on his bed. He erupted with, “Abigail! Are you DEAF?” She must have indicated that she wasn’t completely sure of what that meant, so he began to explain. “Being deaf means you can’t hear, Abigail.” Then there was a pause before Aydan called out, “Nooooooo!”

(In the split second that it took him to speak again, I was laughing inside, for it was easy to guess what my incorrigible daughter had done.)

He continued in exasperation, “It doesn’t mean plugging your EARS!!!!”

My shoulders were shaking by now.

The rant continued. “Abigail!” (pause) “ABIGAIL!!! Unplug your ears. I want to explain what ‘deaf’ means to you.”

I heard her haughty voice, with a lilting emphasis on “hear” reply, **“I won’t hear you.”**

There are two sides to the lesson that spoke to me from that little conversation. How very thankful I am to my Lord that He never turns a deaf ear to me when I come before His throne! Sadly, though, I am often figuratively like Abigail towards things that I don’t like, wish were different, or don’t want to obey. “I won’t hear/see/deal with you.” Everything, be it trial or treat, comes from God and can be a blessing if I allow it to be. May I have the courage to face, in a Biblical way, that which is contrary to my will - allowing Him to teach me, comfort me, and conform my will to His.