LOCKHART FAMILY

Missionaries to Brazil

In December, Jeremy started pastoring the church here while the Brazilian pastor is on a six-month furlough. We have enjoyed this opportunity greatly, and have seen God work in many lives. Jeremy has especially enjoyed teaching the adult Sunday school class. He is teaching a series that starts in Genesis and traces the promise of Christ our Redeemer throughout the Old Testament. It is fun to see the eyes of folks as they take in some of the simple truths of God's Word. Esther enjoyed preparing a ladies' as well as a teen Christmas party at our house.

We enjoyed bringing in the New Year with most of the church family. A big gift exchange, numerous testimonies from the church folks, sparklers for the church kids, and watching fireworks together at midnight made for a special time! God has knit our hearts together with the church here, and it will definitely be hard as we leave the church in June to begin ministering in other capacities.

A Time of Spiritual Growth. In January, Jeremy began preaching through the Gospel of John. He challenged the church to read through the book with him and to memorize the key verse. It has been encouraging to see many who have taken the challenge and have been reading and studying the next passage of Scripture in anticipation of the next week's message. On various occasions, we have overheard church members conversing about the passage they had been reading in John, rather than the typical conversations about the next soccer game or salon visit.

Newcomers. God has blessed us with two new ladies that have been coming faithfully to the services for the past couple months. One of these ladies used to come to church years ago, but is a single mom and had gotten busy working two jobs and discouraged in her spiritual life. Jeremy has been doing Bible studies with her and her teenage kids for well over a year, and the Lord has been working in all of their hearts as they take in the Scriptures. Another lady, who had gotten quite involved with the Jehovah's Witnesses, has been coming faithfully to the services for a couple months now. What a blessing it has been to see her take in the truths of the Gospel of John and realize that Jesus indeed is God and is the only hope for salvation.

Family Camp. During the second week of February, Brazil celebrated Carnival. It is about five days of lewd and perverse partying. Many years ago, missionaries all over Brazil started camp ministries so the Christians could have a place to which they could get away from the partying cities and separate themselves to feast upon God's Word instead. We cancelled church services for the week and all headed out to the countryside for several days of family camp. This year, basically the entire church went to camp with the exception of only a few people. It was a blessed time of preaching and fellowship with other churches. Jeremy was able to teach a class of pre-teen boys from the various churches, and Esther, along with another lady from our church, shared in the teaching of the pre-teen girls.

Fishers of Men. This past week, we got a call from a young man in our church named Willian. Jeremy has been teaching him and doing Bible studies with him for well over a year now. Although he has a long way to go, Willian has grown much over the past year and has been burdened for the salvation of his mom as well as his other family members. Well, he called us last week asking Jeremy to hurry and come to his house. Jeremy went running down to his house, and in tears, Willian told how he had just led his mom to the Lord. What a blessing it is to see those we teach growing and telling others!

Please continue in your prayers for us as we preach and teach God's Word and endeavor to disciple those whom God has put within our care! Many thanks for each of your prayers and your faithful support.

Gratefully, Jeremy and Esther Lockhart

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Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think... Eph. 3:20



Jeremy, Esther, Allie, Bethany, Judah