



# THE *Smothers* FAMILY

CHURCH PLANTING IN BELO JARDIM  
AND PESQUEIRA, BRAZIL

Dear Prayer Partners,

March 12, 2021

Wow, this year seems to be just flying by! I apologize for the length between our last letter and this one. Our computer went down in late November and we took it to the repair shop but after two months of waiting on parts they were unable to fix it. Fortunately it was still under warranty and we were able to get a brand new computer late February. I have been playing catch up since then, because I was unable to do much without it.

We have continued services at the Dickens' house and have wonderful services with many people coming faithfully, as well as a good number of visitors! One of those visitors, a lady with three boys, came as result of the family I mentioned in our last letter. She was nervous about coming because her husband did not want her to come to church, but she came anyways. After staying in contact with her Noel began a Bible study with her and her sister and they both received Christ as their Savior this past Monday! Praise the Lord for new names written in glory!! The young man that Joel and Bro. Dickens have been studying with has recently become the assistant, and we are praying that, if it is the Lord's will, one day will be the pastor here.

Joel continues to do his Portuguese lessons three days a week and is progressing well. He is doing two different Bible studies each week and is also sharing the teaching responsibilities of the teen Sunday school class with three other men in the church and as well as doing a short meditation at the beginning of Sunday school each week before separating in classes. Please pray for a men's gathering that our church and another church from nearby will be having on Easter weekend. We hope to have many visitors and to establish contacts to reach with the Gospel. Joel will be doing activities about survival, applying Biblical principles. He will also be preaching Sunday night, May 30th.



Noel had some medical tests run and came back with a diagnosis of pre-diabetes. The doctor put her on a strict diet to help reduce her blood sugar. In January though, she was down sick for about a week, presumably with Covid, but she didn't get tested to confirm it. As I mentioned earlier she has started a Bible study with two ladies and is trying to get another one with two other ladies. Please pray that she will be able to stay in contact with them and get it going.

Gabe is growing and growing! He is also talking more each day and coming up with things that surprise us all the time. He is also picking up some Portuguese which has been amusing as he gets the two languages confused or combines them in the same sentence. He recently had a fun outing with some friends from church at new park in town.



Thank you for faithfully praying for us and for all those who sent Christmas cards(some are still coming in) Snail mail at its finest! Thank you also for your faithful and generous support in these difficult times.

#### **Prayer Praises:**

New believers  
Service attendance  
Visitors

#### **Prayer Requests:**

Men's gathering  
Noel's continued health  
Bible studies

Yours for the souls of Brasil,  
Joel, Noel and Gabriel Smothers



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NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST MISSIONS

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