

Greetings in the name of our Lord! Yesterday, the country of Brazil stopped. Summoned by trade unions and social movements, a nationwide strike was held in protest of the Labor and Social Security reforms, which are being dealt with in the National Congress. The situation here in Brazil in many areas is the worst I have seen in the twenty-three years we have been here. Many people have lost their jobs and the unemployment rate is up.

It is good, however, to know in these difficult times that God is still on the throne and in control of everything! The Lord has been working in the ministry here in many different ways! Even in the midst of all of this!

1. Brennan, an eleven year old, accepted Christ in prayer time on a Wednesday night with our daughter, Cait.
2. Noemia, a seventy-year old lady, got saved on a Sunday night after the services with Nilza, one of the ladies of the church.
3. Maria Lourdes, sixty-five years old, accepted Christ through the testimony of Dalva, her friend and a seventy-six year old lady of the church in Arembépe.
4. November 2016, Cait taught a course in the Institute on Bible Clubs. As part of the class work, the students were divided into teams and were required to have five-day Bible Clubs. Four teams held Bible Clubs in four different parts of our town. 149 children heard a gospel presentation; this is besides teens and adults that also were present. 19 children made a profession of faith, and many other seeds were planted.
5. October 26, 2016, a new work was started in an area called Cetrel. The federal government has given approximately 5,000 low income families an apartment in this area. This work was started through the initiative of two men from the church in Arembépe, who received an apartment there. In the Institute, we had talked about how to start a new work in this area, and the challenges it presented in the Church Planting class. You cannot rent or buy any of the apartments since they were given to low income families. The apartments are not very large to hold very many people. In spite of all this, the Lord has blessed this new work with 10 souls saved and a high attendance of thirty two. Praise the Lord!
6. In the midst of these things that were happening, we received the sad news on January 12, 2017, that our brother-in-law, Keith Dyer, had passed away. We prayed, and the Lord gave us peace to go to the States for thirty days to be with Debbie Dyer his wife, Darla's sister. Although this was a very difficult time for our family, God sustained us with His grace and blessed us with many answers to prayer.
7. The day before we left to go to the States, we made a visit and had the privilege to lead a man to the Lord, Aristotle. Please pray for him. While we were in the States, Rosalvo, a middle-aged man accepted the Lord in Brazil. The week we returned, Vacation Bible School was held. The most exciting part was that we did not participate; everything was done by the people of the church in Arembépe. What a thrill to see our people step forward and serve the Lord! Ninety-four children were present, and 9 children made a profession of faith! To God be the glory!
8. Thirty days after we returned from the States, I had two hernia repair surgeries. The process to get this surgery done started in September 2016, but due to many factors I had not been able to have the surgery until March. God's timing is perfect and I have now recovered, and been released to resume my normal activities. I would ask your prayers for my surgeon, Doctor Elias, and his surgical team. I gave him and the other members a copy of the book "More Than a Carpenter," by Josh McDowell. The doctor's interest was piqued by the storyline about Josh McDowell and agreed to read the book. Please pray that God would speak to his heart, as well as the others, through the message in the book.
9. Since our return from the States, a young fisherman named Uberatan accepted Christ in the invitation on a Wednesday night. Cait was able to see Luciano, a former co-worker, come to Christ through evangelizing him through social media. Cristiano, the brother of Pastor Fábio, the pastor of our second church accepted Christ on Easter Sunday at his brother's house. Last weekend, we visited our missionary in Sergipe, the next state north of us, and I had the privilege to see two men accept Christ as their Saviour. Please pray for Mario and Genivaldo that they would both grow and become part of the church there in Sergipe. Our son, Campbell, and Vitor, another young man from the church in Arembépe, have been training Brazilian Jiu jitsu. Recently, Vitor decided to pursue a career in Jiu jitsu and moved to Sergipe to train with two Brazilian former world champions. Campbell went and spent the week training with them as well. The same weekend we visited our missionary, we also saw Vitor, and picked up Campbell in Sergipe. Through this whole process, God allowed me to give the plan of salvation to one of Vitor's teacher's, one of the former world champions. He did not make a decision, but agreed to allow me to keep contact and share Bible verses and devotionals with him through social media. Please pray for me for guidance and wisdom in these contacts.

This is just a little bit of all the Lord has been doing here in Northeast Brazil. Thank you for partnering with us! We are grateful for your prayers and financial support of our ministry. God is still on the throne and is worthy of all of our praise! To Him be the glory for all these things! We remain...

Yours in the white fields, Frank, Darla, Cam, Cait, Sofia and Stefan Brim