

Dear Prayer Warriors:

May 15, 2018

Greetings in the name of the Kings of Kings and Lord of Lords! The first months of this year have been full of activity, blessings and sickness. First, let me share the blessings and activity.

January was a month of preparation and realization of Marcelo Gomes' ordination. Marcelo has worked at the church in Arembepe for the last five years as my assistant, gaining experience through teaching, preaching, funerals and every area of the ministry possible. He took care of the church during our last furlough. He graduated from our Institute in December and was ready to be ordained and take on his own ministry. We praise the Lord for the privilege to ordain the third man into the gospel ministry. Pastor Marcelo is taking care of Missionary Alton Smith's church in Monte Gordo while he is in the U.S. taking care of his health. The church has grown in attendance, and 10 people have been saved during this time! Praise the Lord!

February began another semester of our Institute. Twelve students studied this semester and another man, Edevaldo da Silva, graduated from the Institute in April! Praise the Lord for His goodness!

March was our annual church retreat. It was a thrill to see the area five churches represented with 143 in attendance! It was a great time of Christian fellowship, and four of the nine unsaved people present came to know Christ as their Saviour! Thank the Lord for His goodness and grace!

In April, we had the privilege to baptize five more people into the membership of the church in Arembepe! It was a blessing to preach the church anniversary of the church in Boquim, Sergipe. This is the church started by our missionary Pastor Guaraci. Praise the Lord for the work He is doing there! The church was full with new converts and visitors in attendance! Pray that the Lord will continue to bless this church with numerical and spiritual growth! In April, we also celebrated the church anniversary of the church in Arembepe. The church was challenged and the vision was renewed through the preaching of God's Word! The following Thursday on visitation two people were saved! Praise the Lord for the immediate and long results of this conference! In addition to the people saved on visitation that Thursday, six other people were saved in Arembepe this year as well.

In the midst of this activity, we have had a lot of sickness. Darla had shingles in January. February a flu virus started making the rounds in our family. We made many visits to the emergency room, many doctor's visits and Darla was checked into the hospital with an upper respiratory infection and took intravenous antibiotics for five days before she was well enough to go home. We would also ask your prayers for my mother-in-law, Bernice Crites. She has been diagnosed with leukemia and will begin chemotherapy next week.

The first part of the year has also been invested in preparation for our absence as we looked forward to a six month furlough. We have been meeting with the pastors and full time workers over the five churches, with the deacons and their wives of the church in Arembepe. We have been praying that the Lord would take care of the church in our absence. In answer to our prayers, Missionary Bro. Leland Johnson, who the Lord brought to our area last year, has agreed to take care of the church in Arembepe, the Institute and the other ministries. Pray for Bro. Johnson and his family as they continue learning Portuguese, Brazilian culture and serve the Lord in Arembepe.

We have arrived in the U.S. for a six month furlough and will be visiting churches in the Southern states. We ask your prayers that we can be a blessing and guided by the Lord's hand during this furlough. Thank you for your partnership with us through your prayers and giving! We remain...

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