



The HUGGINS FAMILY

Missionaries to **BRAZIL**



I Corinthians 3:7

So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

December 2022 - January 2023

We are very thankful and glad to say we have made it through another year by God's blessings and grace! We have had some storms both literal and spiritual at our church but as always the Lord brought us through the tense night to the peaceful morning sunrise (Psa. 30:5). January marks 2 big dates for us, one is that we have been in Brazil 3 years. The other is the conclusion of the 1st year as pastor of our Camboriú church. It has been the most complicated and challenging times that while I feel completely incapable, I am

thankful it is ultimately the Lord's work and He has given the increase (I Cor. 3:17)! We had a good close to the year and with the increase of our church we have been able to begin supporting two more missionaries one in the Amazon and the other planting churches in Argentina.

In January we also had Missionary Reinaldo Batista present his ministry in the Brazilian prisons. With over 800,000 people incarcerated Brazil is 3rd in the world in this category and because of this, there is a great need for the gospel there. If the Lord allows, a few of our men in the church and I plan to go through training to be volunteer chaplains later this year. My dad got me started in prison work when I was 19 and I am excited for the chance to return to this ministry here in Brazil. We ask for your prayers for our people's desire to serve to remain strong and for the Lord to open doors for these ministries.

Several days ago, a former church member, named Diogo, contacted me asking if I would make a visit with him. I went with him and his wife Fran to a little shack in town where a poor family lived and we talked with the mom, named **Bruna**. We saw the sad condition they lived in with only 2 rooms in the house, a bedroom and a kitchen. There was no bathroom, they used a water hose behind the shack for showering. The family of 5 attended the Pentecostal church but are not wanting to return. Most of the popular evangelical churches here preach a gospel that is only about prosperity in this life. The great blessing came after we were able to deal with her about her soul that she understood from the scriptures that Jesus came not to instruct on how to be rich but "to seek and to save that which was lost". Bro. Diogo then prayed with her and she asked the Lord Jesus Christ to save her soul!! Please pray we can be a help to this family and for Brunna to grow and most of all for the salvation of her husband, **Davi** and their children **Sophie**, **Yuri** and **Jasmine**.

It has been an encouragement to have visitors at church almost every week. We have gone out several times a month placing invitations and gospel tracts at the houses in our neighborhood and also evangelize in the center of town and the park near our church. We are noticing even long after we meet these ...**(Continue Page 2)**



~ PRAYER REQUESTS ~

- Spiritual growth of Brunna and her families salvation
- Salvation - lost family & others we evangelized
- The Lord to call faithful co-workers and leaders

~ THANKSGIVINGS ~

- Souls saved and good witnessing opportunities
- People in our church having a desire to serve God
- Protection our church & people from another big flood

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... people the Lord continues to deal with them and now we are starting to see some of them in church. Along with that several family members of our church people have also visited our church. We have especially been praying for 2 that we have mentioned in other letters, **Ignêz** and **Gerson**, both came and heard a clear gospel presentation. Gerson came with his wife to the marriage retreat we had in January and the guest preacher, Pastor Moisés and I had a good conversation with him about salvation. The other, Ignêz came to church with her daughter in January for the first time, and she said she really enjoys the service and wants to return. Both have strong distrust in church because of their catholic background but they are open and we pray soon they will turn to Jesus for salvation.

Neighborhood by our church



We have also had many good days evangelizing our neighborhood and witnessing to people. One young man named **Edinaldo** listened well as I used a gospel picture cube to demonstrate the gospel to him along with several verses. He was very attentive and under conviction but was not yet ready to trust Christ. Another was at a bakery while we were eating lunch. A young man named **Bruno** heard us speaking English and asked where we were from. This opened up a chance to witness to him and we learned he often visited the area on vacation with his family but this time he was alone. He comes from a strong catholic family but saw many problems with the religious system. He gladly heard the gospel and I think it was the first time he realized Jesus died for him personally and he did not need "the church", Mary, or any sacrament to be saved. He was searching but like Edinaldo they were not yet fully persuaded, so we continue to pray for their salvation.

Water to the door threshold of our church



completely flooded all around the building and rose to just at the threshold of the door. A centimeter more and it would have begun to flood inside the church. Once again God delivered us from some major damage to the church building and used this to strengthen the faith of us all.

One thing we all know is that the harvest is plenteous but the laborers are few. In January, I participated in an ordination of Pastor Pedro, a brother that was one of the men that helped our church through difficult years that it had no pastor. We are always glad to see God raise up leaders who have been faithful serving the Lord. In this area it is great need because the pastor that invited me to pastor the Camboriú church also pastors 3 other churches he planted. The difficulty he explained to me is that many are willing and able to preach but very few here are willing to be faithful in responsibilities outside of the pulpit. I have recently found this to be true in our church as well. We thank God that our church has grown but we know as it does we will need brethren who are faithful in the small things and not just in opportunities to be in the pulpit. We ask for prayer for these kind of people as the Lord directs us to pray for laborers (Matt. 9:38).



We really appreciate all your faithfulness in your prayers and support! We are very thankful we have this opportunity to serve here in Brazil!

— Sincerely in Christ, the Huggins Family - Michael, Lydia & Elaina