



Phillips' Forum



Chip, Laurie, Reed, Caleb, Alison, Susanna

Volume 6 Issue 1

August 1999

Ministry Updates

Pastor Jacó: Pastor Jacó has been the pastor of Faith Baptist in SAI for about 3 years. When we arrived at the hospital site he was viewed as a "Timothy" - young, single, and to be challenged. He had a real heart for discipleship and had a vision for long-term planning. But as he tried to redirect some of the ministries at Faith, many of these new ideas were rejected. Chip began to work with pastor to help him be a more effective leader

They began reading *The Purpose Driven Church* together and Chip has been helping Pastor learn to develop his deacon's spiritual maturity and insights. They now are viewing Pastor as their leader to help the church grow. It has been exciting to see this happen. We now believe the church is developing a solid base that will allow it to reach out more effectively to our community and to neighboring ones.

Sunday School: Both of us continue with teaching roles in SS. Laurie is working along with a Brazilian SS teacher for 4-5 year olds where she is helping this lady develop teaching skills. Laurie has noted that many times stories were taught augmented with "interesting details" that were taught as if scripture. She also noted that the same story is often re-taught over and over again. Now she is learning to study her stories in the Bible before teaching and to make a differentiation between what the Bible says and including "interesting possibilities."

Chip has assumed teaching the single youth over 18 years old. This has been quite the experience. It appears the educational system here is based upon rote memory to the point that any creative thought is actually penalized. When a student is asked a question he

Reed: My favorite sport is soccer. It has been raining almost every day, and I like that. I hope you can come see us sometime!

Caleb: My favorite sport is baseball, but no one ever wants to play with me. We are coming back to the US in a year and a half!

Praise

- Four professions of faith in Children's Club.
- Teens helping to teach in Children's Club
- Hospital well completed.
- Raimundo's salvation.

Prayer

- Processing of hospital and visa documents.
- Salvation of Valdecey.
- Spiritual growth of Club children and Raimundo.
- Development of Marriage Mentoring materials.

must give the response word for word as written in the teacher's handbook. Ideas are not important. When I ask for an opinion, the youth "freeze" because they are afraid that they won't give the "correct word for word" response. Chip works continually, trying to get the

Alison: I like you guys. Do you guys like me, too? I have a lot of friends to play with.

Susanna: She is walking well and likes to visit with others.

Field Address:

Chip & Laurie Phillips

Hospital Batista do Amazonas

Est. São Salvador, 937 - Campinas

69089-000 Santo Antônio do Itá, AM, Brasil

Email: ChipPhillips@xc.org



Sending Churches:

First Baptist Church
of Willingboro, NJ
New Life Baptist Church
of Darby, PA

youth to start thinking on their own. We now have a handful that are starting to make this important transition.

Children's Club: For several months we have had a children's club at our home on Saturday afternoons. We always present the Gospel, but normally don't give an invitation because it is easy to "lead along" a child. Two weeks ago 3 children came up to Laurie and asked to be helped to make a decision to follow the Lord. Later that day one gal brought her friend to do the same. Laurie is now studying with these children on a weekly basis. In addition, over the last month, 2 teens have begun to help Laurie with teaching, leading games, and maintaining control. We are elated that the club is beginning to show fruit in some children's lives and also be a forum to train new club leaders.

Discipleship: This is a slow area because in this culture commitment does not exist and no one is accustomed to study. Literally everyone who has begun studying has stopped for one reason or another. Vanderli, accepted the Lord after being stabbed in the chest about 1 year ago, faithfully attends services and is living "ok". But he is "too busy" to study. Edvan, who accepted the Lord after an appendectomy, works long hours in a bakery and also has little time. He seems to be a "good kid," but rarely attends services. A hospital worker is building a house next to his and said that he will try to follow-up more with Edvan. Antonio and Glorinéia had asked Chip to disciple them. When the issue of their living together came up, they initially decided to follow the Lord, but later turned their backs on the truth and have left the church. Periodically we see them and Antonio usually

has nothing to say...only looking guilty and sad. Francinildo, a hospital worker who had drifted away from the Lord, began some studies, but also seems to "never have time." Business with the things of this world has choked out any time for the Lord.

Evangelism: In this culture, people are quick to "make a decision to follow the Lord," but often lack commitment. Chip is currently working with four men. One is the helper to the accountant in town. Another is our neighbor. A third is a man who sells and delivers bottled gas to us. The fourth is a recent patient. With the first three I am doing a series of studies about "Christian Philosophy" - how to know God personally. There are no set times to meet so it takes a lot of effort to keep things going. But each seems truly interested in spiritual things. The fourth, Raimundo Dias showed up at the hospital about three weeks ago with an "acute abdomen." We operated and found a strangulated internal hernia with about 3 feet of dead bowel which was removed. He did fabulously after surgery. However, more remarkable was his hunger for God. He is from a small village and a Catholic background. He was very knowledgeable about the Bible from personal reading and Chip spent several hours with him explaining the Bible and giving verses for him to read. He was amazed to find things in the Bible for himself and see that he could understand them. On his follow-up visit last week Chip again presented the Gospel to him and he made a decision to follow the Lord. We are now scheduled to start a discipleship program. Please pray that he will be one to continue in his studies and truly grow in his new life.

Chip & Laurie Phillips

Mailed via Alpha Secretarial Services
RR1 Box 127-H
Susquehanna, PA 18847-9413

*Missionaries to BRAZIL with
ABWE
P.O. Box 8585
Harrisburg, PA 19175-8585*

| |
|---|
| Non Profit Org. U.S. POSTAGE PAID South Gibson, PA Permit No. 4 |
|---|

Address Correction Requested