



Phillips' Forum



Chip, Laurie, Reed, Caleb, Alison,

Volume Issue

Susanna, Julie Anne

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The Lord's Timing Permanent Visas In Hand and Medical License Released

Chip had to ask the lady on the other end of the long distance call to repeat herself. The ability to converse on the phone is one of the hardest aspects of learning a new language because there are no visual clues and phone connections are often not the best...especially long distance. Could she really have said that our visas were approved? What? She wanted a fax number?

A short while later we were reading a fax from the office of the Amazonas state representative who was helping "push" our process along. "Congratulations on the approval of your visas with the condition of inexpulsability". The process of obtaining a visa based on the birth of Susanna had been complicated, but in the Lord's timing it had finally come through and now we had 90 days to accept the visa.

Yet we would have to wait. Laurie was due to deliver in about a month and a construction team was coming to help out with some projects on the field. It seemed unfortunate to have to wait for another 2 months before going to get our visas.

However, about a week before we were to travel, Chip called the University of Amazonas to inquire about starting the paperwork for Dr. Mark Thompson's license. The University only accepts requests once a year and there had been a university worker's strike last May when Dr. Thompson was to apply. They informed Chip that applications would be accepted only for 5 days...and we would be arriving in Manaus right in the middle of this period. Praise the Lord.

We took the paperwork with us and his initial application was accepted without problems. This month he will travel to Manaus for a Portuguese language exam and later he will need to take both written and oral medical exams.

The Lord was surely good to time things perfectly so that our trip would coincide with these 5 open days.



Praises

- Visas and medical license in hand.
- Dr. Thompson's medical license process initiated.
- Salvation of Tataruga and his wife.
- Engagement of Pastor Jacó.
- Growth of Faith Baptist Church

Prayer

- Wisdom in Chip's balancing medical and non-medical work.
- Financial stability for the hospital.
- Dr. Thompson's medical license.
- Laurie's adjustment to a new baby while trying to keep house and teach.

“Turtle” Speeds up Maintenance

Since Chip arrived at the hospital site 2 1/2 years ago, he has been looking for a Brazilian to help our aging maintenance worker. It has been hard to find someone with spunk. The motto of many is “What doesn’t get done today, I’ll think about doing tomorrow after lunch.”

About 8 months ago Tartaruga’s or “Turtle’s” newborn child was admitted to the hospital with a severe eye infection. As Chip got to know him, he observed that Tartaruga had many strong character qualities and was well respected in the community. Chip began to pray that Tartaruga would get saved and be interested in working at the hospital. Pastor Jaco had already witnessed to Tartaruga as they played sports together. Dr. Thompson did some follow-up visits and shortly both Tartaruga and his wife made professions of faith. Last month they were both baptized.

Chip began to work with Tartaruga both spiritually and on some short-term maintenance projects. He proved to be a good worker and also good at motivating and organizing the work of group projects.

However, Chip soon discovered that this diamond was still in the rough. His experience in maintenance was limited, and he could not read or write. Chip has worked daily with Tartaruga on three fronts. First, Tartaruga studies how to read and write. Second, Chip is teaching Tartaruga everything he can about troubleshooting and solving maintenance problems. Third, Tartaruga is being disciplined and taught how to help other new believers grow in their faith.

Julie Anne Arrives Safely

Our visas had been approved and we were now awaiting the arrival of our new baby before traveling to Manaus. We waited and waited and two weeks after her due date we decided to induce the delivery. Laurie arrived at the hospital about 08:00 and went to work catching up on her dairy as she waited for the oxytocin to take effect.

The induction went well and at 2:22 PM, Julie Anne Phillips was born and weighed in at 7#, 2oz. The placenta was again retained, but this time Chip was able to remove it w/o difficulty. The next morning Laurie and Julie Anne were able to go home.

Hospital-Church Coordination

Carolee Graf, a new missionary at the hospital site, is helping us better integrate new believers into Faith Baptist Church. She and Dr. Thompson are training teams of Brazilians to follow-up on hospital contacts. Those patients and family members who made professions of faith are being helped to find new friends at Faith Baptist Church. Others are followed-up with another presentation of the Gospel.

Pray that the Lord will use these co-laborers to expand the hospital’s spiritual impact in the community. In the past the hospital has had a paternal relationship with the local church. We are now attempting to help Faith Baptist transition into being a true co-laboring force.