



Phillips' Forum



Chip, Laurie, Reed, Caleb, Alison, Susanna, Julie Anne

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Family Seminar

This month Chip has been giving a weekly seminar on training children within the family. People in this culture are non-confrontational and tend to live for today instead of planning for the future. This creates a number of difficulties related to raising children. Chip is trying to focus on helping parents see that they need to actively guide their children's development by confronting bad behavior and encouraging good behavior. He is also trying

to show parents that how they raise their children now will have life-long consequences for their children. Additionally we are trying to emphasize that parents need to be good examples for their children.

Our church as a few young couples who have the potential to live their married lives and raise children by biblical principles. Pray that they will understand and apply these studies to their everyday lives.

Documentation

For the Hospital: This fall we revised the hospital by-laws to integrate better into the ever-changing Brazilian medical-legal system. We are now reapplying for "Public Utility" (tax privileged) status and federal recognition as a social assistance entity so that we can import donated supplies and to offer Dr. Mark Thompson a work contract.

For Dr. Mark Thompson: Dr. Thompson is now in the same process that Chip went through to get his license. We are praying that the experience Chip gained will help expedite this process. Dr. Thompson has already passed his Portuguese language exam and will take written and oral medical exams next month. Pray that these will go well. While Mark is going through this process Chip is working on offering him a work contract through the Hospital. Pray that this can be done w/o many hitches.

Best Wishes

As we finish this year and enter the new one we would like to wish each of you a joyful Christmas. We are truly grateful for your letters of encouragement and reassurances that you are praying fervently for this ministry. Thanks also to the many who have sent regular support or extra gifts that have made this outreach possible.

Furlough Plans

It is hard to believe that this month we will complete four years of service in Brazil. Lord willing in May of 2001 we will be returning to North America for a year of regularly scheduled furlough ministry.

As we look back over the last four years it is exciting to see all that the Lord has done. There have been some tough times, but as we look back over these years, it is clear that the Lord has been active.

There are new believers grow-

- Tartarugas continued growth as a believer.
- Volunteers helping follow-up patients with a presentation of the Gospel.

Prayer

- Dr. Thompson's and the Hospital's documentation.
- Salvation of Higson and João Mafra.
- Results from use of the Marriage Mentoring materials.
- Hospital's financial status.
- Ministry schedule and housing during furlough.

ing in their faith alongside older believers that are learning how to disciple. There are young couples beginning their families on biblical principles. The local church has grown about 25% and has a better spirit. The hospital is more stable and functioning smoothly.

Soon we will be able to share many details with each of you personally. We can be contacted at "gphillips@abwe.org" to schedule meetings. Also, if you know of housing possibilities please let us know.

Field Address:

Chip & Laurie Phillips

A/C 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

Personal Discipleship Ministries

Laurie continues to do studies with neighborhood children and teens. Recently two children made professions of faith. Laurie does these studies jointly with our children and is now trying to help them learn how to teach scriptural principles to others.

Chip continues to work the Tartaruga (Turtle) about four days a week. Tartaruga is now able to slowly read a children's Bible and has begun to make progress in his spiritual life. He seems firm in his commitment to follow the Lord. However, like many Amazonenses, he is not accustomed to think abstractly. Chip works on scripture memory with him as well as reading and learning how to think analytically.

Together we are continuing a weekly Bible study with unbelievers Assis and Maria. Pray that the Holy Spirit will convict them of their need for personal repentance and submission to the Lord.

We are also continuing to work on the Marriage Mentoring materials. Our Brazilian pastor who is to be married in the next two months as well as a deacon in our church who recently passed through some difficult times in their marriage will be starting to go through these studies next month.

Family/Children Updates

Hospital Evangelism

As we have had more patients in the hospital with routine surgery our hospital evangelism team has been quite busy. We have two employees (one from the laboratory and one from sterilization) who take some time out from their "normal" work to share the gospel with patients. We also have a number of volunteers that come regularly to share the Good News with our patients.

Several patients have made professions of faith and many have expressed interest in follow-up visits. We are now coordinating this follow-up program and tracking to see how effective we are being in helping people understand the Gospel. One young lady, Rosimar, was recently shot four times by her husband who was drunk. Three wounds were superficial, but one injured her rectum and gravid uterus. In surgery she lost her baby and received a colostomy. As she recuperated in the hospital her initially bitter disposition mellowed as she came to understand the Lord could use this horrible situation in her life to bring her life long happiness through developing a personal relationship with Him. Rosimar is now convalescing at home, actively studying her Bible, and awaiting another operation to reverse her colostomy.

As people have responded to the Gospel, both within the hospital and without, we are now finding it difficult to find time to study with each person individually. Pray that we will have wisdom in guiding the spiritual development of these new believers as we work hand-in-hand with the leadership of Faith Baptist Church.

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*

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