



# Phillips' Forum



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

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## It's Great to be Home Again Our Return to Brazil Goes Well

**Travel to Brazil:** Our flight went well from Philadelphia to Miami where Chip split up from the family. Even through the children were very tired (flight arrived in Brazil at 4 AM), Laurie and Rubie Sue were able to get through customs w/o too many hassles. Thanks for praying!

**Language Training:** Rubie Sue was able to quickly start classes and is progressing very rapidly. We anticipate her arrival in SAI next month at which time she will integrate into the church's ministries as well as start helping out with homeschooling our children.

**Hospital:** Chip was delighted to find the hospital functioning well. Dr. Thompson breathed a sigh of relief when he saw Chip as he no longer was alone.

The hospital evangelistic team had grown from one to four people (2 men and 2 women) and we are seeing several people make decision for Christ each week. More importantly, these people are being followed and integrated into the local church. There are currently over 30 people being discipled.

**Surgery:** Shortly after we arrived a man came to our door saying his father, Feliciano, needed medical attention. He was about 85 years old, very frail, and confused. Unfortunately, what appeared to be an incarcerated hernia was metastatic testicular cancer. He died shortly thereafter and we never knew details of his spiritual condition.

We then had two other patients needing surgery. Claudici was from a distant community, needed a hernia operation, and was already a believer. Berquinho was suffering from frequent gallbladder attacks. The night before surgery Chip shared the gospel with him and his wife. On the days following his operation they continued to read their Bible and ask questions. They both fully understand the gospel and are now struggling with whether to put their trust in the Lord. Much of what they learned "about the Bible" in the past was half truths and mistruths. Pray that the Lord will open their understanding. They wish to meet again in a week.

## Praise

- Rubie Sue is doing well in language study.
- Laurie did well traveling to Brazil w/o Chip.
- The leadership conference in Paraguay went well.
- The church in SAI is doing well.
- The hospital continues with an effective evangelistic outreach.

## Prayer

- Rubie Sue will be studying Portuguese for 2 months.
- Processing of hospital documents.
- Sherry, our nurse colleague, is undergoing chemotherapy.
- The salvation of Maria and Assis.
- Funding for the Medical Missions Endowment.
- Spiritual growth for Tartaruga.

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### Sending Churches:

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

# Catching up With Old Friends

**Pastor Jacó and Glorinha:** Both Pastor Jacó and Glorinha are doing well. The Lord gave them grace to deal with the death of their premature son last year and He used it to give them many opportunities to witness. Faith Baptist Church has continued to grow. In number it is about the same as when we left, but the face of the church has changed. A number of people have started to grow in their faith and are actively working to edify others in their Christian faith. Chip will start to meet regularly with Jacó for mutual encouragement and accountability.

**Tartaruga:** During our absence Tartaruga was fired as a hospital employee for stealing. This past year he did not make progress in his spiritual life, but expressed interest in starting to get his life back on the right track. His wife is also expecting their fourth child next month. Please pray that Tartaruga will seriously walk with the Lord and begin to grow in his faith as he restarts studying the Bible with Chip.

## Evangelizing as an “Authority”

In our area, an authority is any important person. As the hospital director, Chip is a recognized community leader. A neighborhood called “Independence” was celebrating its 20th anniversary and Chip was asked to open the celebration in prayer. Chip was able to share the gospel from Luke 4 where Jesus says he came to give liberty to the oppressed.

**Assis and Maria:** During our first week in Santo Antonio we ran into Assis and Maria several times. On Saturday Chip was able to stop by their house and spend some time with them. As the conversation turned to spiritual issues Chip was delighted to see that they still remembered most of what they had previously studied. He was sad to realize, though, that they were still hardened to the Gospel. Assis felt that although he was a sinner, the Lord would accept him as a good person. He realized, though that his wishes were opposed to what the Bible taught. Maria looked torn as she struggled with the possibility of having to leave the Catholic church. Chip emphasized that the Bible studies only talked about her willingness to believe what the Bible teaches, trust in God, and be willing to obey Him with her whole heart. However, she recognized that what she had been taught previously did not match what she now read in the Bible. Pray that she will be willing to trust the Lord with her life.

## Children Welcomed Home

When our boat came into town a number of people met us at the port including all of our children’s neighborhood friends. As Chip worked on unloading our luggage, the boys ran home with their friends. It took less than five minutes after our arrival for the yard to be full of playing children.

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### Chip & Laurie Phillips

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