



# Phillips' Forum



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

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## Discipleship Training

We continue to work on integrating the evangelism of the hospital ministry with our local church. Currently 23 people are participating in a "New Believer's Class". Please continue to pray as we try out new approaches to help those growing in Christ become firmly grounded in their faith.

Chip continues to work with a number of men. Dr. Gabriel continues to study weekly with Chip. João Maфра has begun working in the capital and Chip has had less contact with him. Tartaruga and Valdimilson continue to be faithful at Church and in applying scripture to their lives.

## Nursing Education

Our nurses have been well trained by missionaries and are undoubtedly the most conscientious and competent in the interior of the Amazon. But they have no nursing licenses since their training was not in a recognized school.

We have an opportunity to bring a recognized school to our town and train our nurses formally as RNs for a cost of only \$1,000.00 per nurse. Would you consider making a gift to help our 14 nurses?

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## Call for Prayer and Fasting

The Lord has always been good to meet our needs at the Amazon Baptist Hospital. Over the past two years there have been a number of government stipulated employee salary increases that invoked financial crises. Each time the Lord provided. This month another increase will be in effect. In the past these increases always accompanied a rise in the value of the dollar, but more recently the dollar has remained stable. Now we anticipate a monthly short-fall.

Will you consider praying and fasting about this on our behalf? We need the Lord's guidance. Will He provide substantial funding for the Medical Endowment? Will He allow us to participate in the Brazilian Medicaid system and bill the government for services? Will He touch hearts to give more as a monthly donation? Or is He allowing this situation to force us to consider cutbacks in the medical services provided? What will bring more glory to His name? How does He desire to advance His kingdom?

Help us seek the Lord's face at this time of decision (see reverse side). At this time, more than at any other, we need clear direction from the Lord.



## Praise

- Sherry's visit went very well and encouraged many to be stronger in their Christian walk.
- The hospital is up this month to be considered a nationally recognized social assistance agency.
- Continued good health for our family.

## Prayer

- Emmy Lou's volunteer visa has run into some more beurocratic snags. Please pray that these resolve quickly.
- Wisdom for each of us involved in the hospital meeting to decide the direction of future medical ministries.
- Spititual growth for neighborhood children, Tartaruga, and Valdemilson.
- Funding for the hospital.

### Sending Churches:

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

# Carnival Camp

Many churches have "Carnival Camps" to divert their youth's attention from the worldly influences of this "Mardi Gras". Chip was invited to speak in Benjamin Constant. This was a first for Chip. Four youth accepted Christ as Savior and three dedicated their lives to the Lord.



Maurício accepted Christ as Savior at camp.



Short-termer Keith made friends with ALL nationals.



Reed has begun to learn to work in the lab.

# Planning Meeting Approaches

A long-term planning meeting for the Hospital ministry is planned for June 15-17, 2004. This is a very important meeting as we will be seriously looking at redirecting the medical ministry in the upper Amazon.

Right now we are facing a number of challenges and changes. One is the planned opening of a state-run hospital in our town. How will this impact the services we offer? Will it allow us to focus on those activities that are more evangelistically effective? Would it be better for us to focus less on medical care and more on educational activities? A second challenge is continuing increases in the government stipulated minimum salary. Our budget has already been tight and we now face not being able to pay our employees.

As we prepare for this meeting, we are looking over our records to discern if some medical treatments attract patients who are more open to the Gospel. We are also starting to poll local community leaders and people at large to gather their input.

Please pray that we will be sensitive to the Lord's leading and make wise decisions as to how to best use medicine to reach the Lost.



Thanks for praying faithfully for us.

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## Chip & Laurie Phillips

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