



Phillips' Forum



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No Cure, But Healed

Doc, does this have a cure? No. I guess I can't go back on some choices, can I? No. Will I die soon? No, you can live a normal life with treatment.

At 30 years old, "John" was facing a diagnosis of AIDS. My heart broke as I saw him facing up to the consequences of foolish decisions he had made. Some years ago he heard the Gospel, but decided not to follow Christ. The allure of a "fulfilling" life of parties and sex seemed more appealing. Now he sees the wisdom he had previously neglected.

The Lord used this crisis to help "John" put eternity in perspective as well as see the value of Biblical instruction. Although he still will face a difficult illness, he decided to put his faith in Christ and does not have to meet this crisis alone. His illness may not have a cure, but he found new life in Christ and healing for a broken spirit.

Still Awaiting Teacher's Visa

Emmy Lou continues to work on paperwork for her visa application. Chip visited the consulate in Chicago and found some problems with the original visa application. However, correcting this has not helped

Parent Graduation

In November we had a graduation for six couples who completed the Growing Kids God's Way course. The graduation was a special time when each couple invited five new couples to the ceremony to learn about the program. Both husband and wife shared about a parenting struggle they had faced and how the course taught them the Biblical principles for that issue.

It was exciting to hear each couple relate how their lives and families had changed as they put the Bible into practice. Pray that these couples will continue to grow in their love for the Lord and their parenting abilities.

Lord willing we will start another class after the new year that will focus on non-believers. Pray that we will have opportunities to share not only practical parenting solutions for everyday problems, but also how each parent can know God personally and follow Him wholeheartedly.

the process move along any quicker. Please pray that the process will again move ahead or that the Lord will make it clear if for some reason He has other plans for Emmy Lou.

Praise

- The Lord has provided for the Hospital's short-term financial needs.
- Our prenatal program is again functioning well.
- The hospital's evangelism program is integrating well with the local church.

Prayer

- Wisdom to know how to proceed with Emmy Lou's visa process.
- Contacts for Hospital funding.
- Hospital's request to decrease taxes is still in process.
- Sherry Skirrow's continued battle with cancer.
- Wisdom as we end the year and start another series of parenting classes.
- Negotiations with local mayors to help offset operating expenses.

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Sending Churches:

First Baptist Church
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New Life Baptist Church
of Darby, PA

Discipleship Training

We continue to work on integrating the evangelism of the hospital ministry with our local church. Currently over thirty people are participating in New Believers classes. Please continue to pray for wisdom 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 stopped studying with Chip and entered an adulterous relationship. João Mafra started working part-time in the capital and Chip has had less contact with him, but he continues firm in his faith. Tartaruga and Valdimilson continue to be faithful at Church and in applying scripture to their lives.

Laurie continues to work with neighborhood kids as they enter their teen years.

Resuming Prenatal Care

Dr. Mark Thompson is back at the hospital site with his Brazilian medical license. He has restarted Sherry's prenatal clinic and is providing obstetrical care for mothers with their first delivery or those with complications. His first weeks have been very busy.

Many of these mothers have expressed interest in spiritual matters and are being followed by our staff evangelists. Please pray as we develop literature for these mothers to help them prepare for their deliveries, raise a new infant, and seek to know the living God.

Update on Sherry

Sherry has received news that there are no more treatment options available to her. She feels generally well, but has less energy than before. Please pray for her as she moves in with her parents and faces the final stages of her illness.

Benefits of Student Nurse Rotations

The hospital has been filled to overflowing with both patients and nurses. As classes switched to hospital rotations, sixty student nurses have converged on the hospital we have received some special benefits.

New people often bring new ideas. We have had a great exchange with the nursing instructors. While they have learned some new techniques from us, they have made suggestions on how to make our hospital more "Brazilian." For example, in Brazil, red-ink pens are used on night shifts and blue pens only during the day. Also, there are regional differences regarding solutions used for dressing changes. We were using acceptable, but not the "normal" solutions. Making small changes like these help our hospital be more user-friendly to Brazilian visitors and inspectors.

The nursing students have been a great blessing as well. When we bring patients back from the OR we have to lift them into their beds. Extra hands are very helpful with large patients. Also, within the last two weeks, three of our staff underwent emergency surgeries. One for her gall bladder and two for their appendix. It was great that the Lord allowed this to occur while we had extra nurses available to help out.

The Lord Provides

We are very grateful for each of you that the Lord has used to meet this ministry's financial needs. In addition to the needs presented in our recent mailing, we required extra supplies and equipment that were not anticipated. The Lord has also met these needs.

Thank you so much for being a part of our team. You will never know what an encouragement you are to us. May the Lord bless each of you!

Chip & Laurie Phillips

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