



THE *Speights* FAMILY

Jon, Hannah, Joanna, & Jason

Dear Friends and Prayer Partners,

February 2015

The Lord has blessed us a lot over the past few months. We have had a very busy schedule through the holiday season, and it is not slowing down much. The Lord has allowed us to see several more saved and three baptisms. Some of the biggest news would be that we commemorated the 20th anniversary of the founding of the church in November with a four-day prophecy conference. Most of you should remember that the Lord guided our team to Igreja Batista da Biblia when they needed a pastor. Dan Bennett took over the work, rebuilding and growing the ministry, and it has been perfect for us to be learning and growing here. We have seen a lot of new members added and some old members return. There has been a whole lot of growth.

One change to our plans has been the closing of a door to move the church to an area called Guacari. We had land available there, but the money to build hadn't quite come through yet. At the same time, we already have a considerable number of members already commuting a very large distance every Sunday, and the move would have lengthened it past the bearable point. To put this in perspective, a number of them are already commuting almost three hours one way. We have finally decided to stay put where we are and to continue to save up what money we can. A new subway station should be coming into place in the next few years close to where we are, which will speed up a lot of transportation. On a good note, another church here in São Paulo is now going to be using the Guacari land for a church plant, and we may be able to help a bit with that.

We also were able to celebrate the new year with a church camp. We left for the Jundiai area (about two hours northwest) a few days after Christmas and held a deaf camp on the property of Igreja Batista da Biblia de Jundiai, where we have previously helped some with the deaf ministry that they started. We were able to have several days to relax outside of the city, as well as to have fellowship, good studies of God's Word and a whole lot of verse memorization. The first person to have finished all her verses was actually a recently-baptized deaf lady in her early 70s. She and Hannah spent hours together working on the list, and she did a great job of saying all 25 on our list. We were able to join the church there for their watch-night service and some spectacular fireworks at a very close range. I do mean very close.

We have a lot to do over the next few months. I (Jon) started preaching at least every second Sunday main service and second Thursday (our mid-week) service at the start of January. It is still an adjustment and a hunt for vocabulary, but thankfully, I have a lot of willing helpers and correctors. Please continue to pray for us to have ability in the language. Your prayers mean a lot to us. Safety as we drive, understanding as we minister, fluency as we communicate, and the work of the Holy Spirit in hearts are all vital to us here. They come as you pray. Please continue. Hannah's health has been a lot better recently, and we are all going full tilt. Please also think about coming to visit us. We are looking forwards to hosting our first missions group from a supporting church during this coming June, so yours could be next! God bless and keep all of you.

Psalm 37:4,5

Jon, Hannah, Joanna and Jason Speights

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