Leland, Naomi, Lincoln, and Lauren **Johnson**

missionaries to Brazil



September 24, 2018

"Let's invite some kids and do a little Bible club while you are here, as well."

We had invited two single missionaries to visit us, both of whom had experience with children's ministry when they were in college. The goal was to help a new house church ministry that the church has started in a public housing area. We planned to knock doors, distribute tracts, and do a small Bible club on one or two of the afternoons. We prayed for God to save souls and for fifty to sixty kids to show up to the club.

2 PEOPLE ACCEPTED CHRIST

When we arrived Monday morning, the first thing we wanted to do was go to the two elementary schools nearby and ask if we could pass out flyers for the Bible club, which is not always permitted here. We went to the first school, and the director said that he was a Christian and would be happy to let us come back on Wednesday. What a blessing! Later that afternoon, we were able to go door knocking and see two people accept Christ. What a start to the week!

Getting permission at the other school was not so simple. The director invited us into her office, and after we explained what we wanted to do, she flat out refused. But what happened next was only of God. As we continued talking to her, she began to soften. After about an hour of conversation, she invited us not only to come back and invite kids but also to do a reduced version of the Bible in four different assemblies then next day. While we were not allowed to go in depth into the Bible, it was an incredible opportunity to build relationships with the teachers and kids and invite them to the club. We returned to the first school on Wednesday expecting just to pass out flyers, but when we arrived, the director asked us if we would like to speak to each class individually and invite them to come to the club. We did this all morning and returned later in the afternoon to do it again with the second group that studies there.

On Thursday morning, the guys, having done these types of events in the past, did not want to get too excited and maintained that they would be happy with 60 kids. I, on the other hand, having no experience, was very excited and told them that we would plan for at least 100.

Brazilians are not really known for being on time, so when about 50 children and parents were present ten minutes before the start time, I knew that it was going to be something big. Fifteen minutes later, we had over 100 kids. After about thirty minutes, we had over 150. We had only prepared about 100 snack bags, which held the church information and tracts, so while the guys were busy doing the program, I jumped in the car and raced to the store to buy more snacks and bags. By the time I returned with 75 more snacks, we had about 100 more people there. I raced back to the store and bought all the individually wrapped snacks that they had, and when I returned, there were at least 275 people there. At the end of the program, the they were able to give a clear presentation of the gospel, and we believe that many people responded, but with the overwhelming number of attendees, it was not possible to deal with people individually. Weeks later, we are still seeing dividends as people from that day continue to visit the service. Pray with us that God will continue to work in their hearts.

Space does not permit to tell you about the two weeks teaching in the seminary, the pastors meeting we held, or many of the other things that are happening. However, please do be in prayer for a two-day evangelistic event that we are holding October 5 and 6. God bless you all.

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