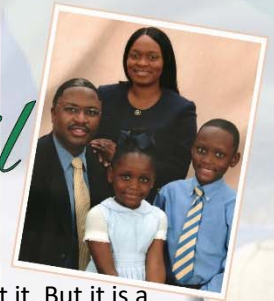


the Johnson's missionaries to *Brazil*



February 1, 2016

Home... It is such a small word. Most times we use it without even thinking about it. But it is a word that has gained such an important meaning to us. Almost 2 years ago to the day, we moved out of our home, put our belongings in storage, and moved into my parents' home to begin preparing for deputation. A few months later we moved back up to our home church in Virginia and moved into Naomi's parents' home. Over the next 18 months we stayed in many people's homes, in hotels that tell you to feel at home, and many times our van was home as we traveled. Even when we arrived in Brazil, we stayed in the home of another missionary, Sean and Stephanie Lunday. Although every time we stayed, people told us to make ourselves at home, and many of these places even felt "like home," none of them were home. It was not until last week, for the first time in two years, that we woke up in OUR HOME and the feeling was unbelievable.

It is difficult in such a short letter to explain just how amazing our first 30 days on the field have been. We have always known that we have the best prayer supporters, but it has been proven again within the last month. At the end of our last letter, we asked for very specific prayer regarding our transition. We asked for safety as we flew to Brazil and God granted us a restful flight, with all of our 20 suitcases and crates arriving together. We asked for prayer for our registration with the Federal Police. This process can take anywhere from 4 hours to several days, we completed it in 1 hour and 35 minutes (the fastest our Field Director has ever seen it done! Praise God!). We requested prayer to find a place to live quickly and once again, our God is awesome! We went to a realtor's office on a Saturday with 4 places that we had seen online, but the one that we had ranked as #1 was already rented out. The 2nd place was not available till Monday and the 3rd was a definite no. As we were leaving, the realtor mentioned that the owner of the 2nd apartment had just reduced the price by nearly \$400 per month and it had not even been posted. We knew right then that God was working and this would be the place. When we walked into the apartment on Monday there was no need to continue looking, we knew that was the one. Lastly, we requested prayer for reliable transportation which we were able to find quickly and at a great price.

Of course, it has not all been a bed of roses. You know that feeling that you have when someone does not speak English and they are living in America? It is hard to describe how difficult it is actually to be that person. In America, we could buy a house, read a road sign, pay a bill, and even read the settings on a washing machine. But here in Brazil, each of those things is an adventure. Even grocery shopping brings its own unique challenges. Even through each of these experiences, God has been faithful.

Language school starts in just a few more days! This is an exciting time as we are finally able to start learning Portuguese. From now until December, five days a week, we will be in class working on our new language. Please pray that as we get back into classroom learning mode that we are able to adjust quickly. Also pray that God would give us an affinity for learning a new language and a grasp of the grammar. Also pray that God would give us grace as we continue to adjust to a new, completely different, way of thinking in our new country. Thank you for your prayers!

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