the Johnson's missionaries to Brazil

July 2, 2015

"When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another..." Independence Day is an important part of our lives as Americans, and a special time of celebration for our Nation. More than just July 4th, we celebrate other independence days like the age of 18 and 21. We celebrate our first job, first car, and first home; all of these are symbols of our steps toward independence. We could never imagine celebrating a day called "Dependence Day", or celebrating dependence on other people. That is what is so strange about starting deputation. It is moving from stability to instability, from independence to dependence, and it is the most exhilarating and rewarding thing we have ever done!

July 14 will mark one year since we made our first phone call to start setting meetings. It was also the day that we decided to decline a part-time job offer and to fully rely on God. If you know me, you know that I have been employed every single day since the day that I turned 15 years and 8 months (the youngest age to get a work permit). It is amazing how much we think that we rely on God as long as our paycheck is coming in each month. I have heard that when you sky dive, the first feeling when you jump out of the plane is a feeling of complete freedom, but seconds later... as you plummet towards the ground... you realize how dependent you are on that parachute opening. We have lived this feeling over the past 11 months. However, God has done so much more than coast us safely to the ground. God came, like an eagle, and grabbed us and has lifted us to heights that we never thought possible. In Exodus 19:4, God says "Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings and brought you unto myself." The Declaration of Independence is good, but the "Declaration of Dependence" on God is better.

Thank you for your prayers over the last 6 weeks. We have traveled over 6,000 miles since our last update and God has continued to bless in ways that you cannot even imagine. Please continue to pray for us! Our next prayer letter will be written and mailed from the West Coast as we will be in the middle of our almost 2 month West Coast trip. But it starts with getting back to our home church for the COEBA Conference, which focuses on planting churches in our Jerusalem in order to send us and others to the "uttermost parts of earth." We are so excited to get back home as this will be the first time since December 31 that we will not be in meetings and be able to be back with our church family. Being in other churches has been awesome, but there is nothing like getting back home!

<u>CONTACT INFORMATION</u> Leland, Naomi, Lincoln & Lauren (704) 751-0015 Johnsons@pastorplanting.org www.pastorplanting.org SENDING CHURCH Crossroads Baptist Church 5811 Hoffmans Lane Baileys Crossroads, VA 22041 Dr. Kenny Baldwin, Pastor

<u>Schedule</u>

Somerset Baptist, New Jersey

Blessed Hope Baptist, Wyoming

First Baptist Church, Colorado

Windsor Baptist, Colorado

Central Baptist, California

Calvary Baptist, California

Meetings

Meetings Set: 127

Meetings Held: 85

Prayer and Praises

The paperwork process has been started for passports and visas.

We have started working on Portuguese in earnest, pray for a basic understanding by January.

Support Committed

83% 26 Weeks till 2016!

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