

April 6, 2020

Most times, we start off our letters with what has been going on with us. However, in these uncharted days we're living in, our greatest concern is how you have been doing. As missionaries, our prayer chain is made up of tens of thousands of people across the country and even the world. It is impossible to send a letter like this without it reaching one of our prayer warriors who has been deeply affected by this virus. We are supported by churches, but the church is a collection of individuals. Every dollar that we receive comes from individuals who may have been laid off, may be sick, or some who may be among those who have passed away. As you have prayed for us so many times in the past, let me assure you that we are praying for you during this time.

**WE ARE
PRAYING
FOR YOU!**

The news that we had planned to share in this letter has been somewhat preempted by the crisis that our world is facing. Even we have been affected; my pastor was diagnosed with COVID-19 and spent nearly two weeks in the hospital. Thank God, he has recovered and is back at home. Please pray for Mike Baldwin, our assistant pastor and my mentor, who has congestive heart failure and AFIB and has been experiencing some heart-related issues. He has been told that he cannot go to the hospital for fear that he would contract the virus.

The reason we delayed this letter is that there is just so much information that is up in the air. As expected, all our meetings after March 15 were canceled. With us being so close to heading back to the field, that was all the remaining meetings here in the States. Unfortunately, I have also joined so many others whose graduation has also been canceled in May. While not being able to walk across the stage to receive my doctorate is a little disappointing, we realized that if we had not delayed our return to Brazil by a few weeks for graduation, we would have been set to head back or would have just gotten to Brazil as everything began shutting down for this crisis.

The biggest area of concern at this point is our return date to Brazil, which is set for May 13. The truth is that we do not yet know what will happen. At this point, we are planning and preparing to leave on time. Brazil has issued the same health warnings as the United States, and citizens are being ordered to stay home. Because we have permanent resident status in Brazil, we can return at any time, but we will surely be required to quarantine once there. If the country remains locked down through the middle of May, then it will be very difficult to arrive and start looking for housing. In that case, we would likely have to delay our leaving until the lockdown ends. We are praying that we will be able to leave on time, but we are asking God to give us wisdom, as well. We will continue to pray for you as you continue to pray for us.

**PRAY
THAT GOD
WOULD
GIVE US
WISDOM.**