



# NORTHEASTERN Brazil

Leland, Naomi, Lincoln, and Lauren Johnson

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The past few weeks have passed so quickly. We have been on the attack against the devil and seen that the gates of Hell cannot stand in the way of God's church. But the devil has certainly been busy mounting his own counterattacks against us. Let me share a few examples.

A few weeks ago, we stopped by a roadside stand where we sometimes buy snacks. One of the men that work there, Davi, came over and asked if he could talk with me. We walked away from the other workers into an empty parking lot. As we were walking, he started crying and told me that he had tried to kill himself the night before. He said that when I pulled up in the car, he knew that God had sent me there to talk to him. About 15 minutes later, right there in the parking lot, we knelt, and he accepted Jesus as his personal Savior. (God's work moving forward, on the attack.)

Two Sundays ago, we recognized our first four converts to complete our discipleship class and we performed our first baptisms. We had two candidates for baptism! One was my daughter Lauren; the other was a man named Luis who God saved a few months ago. After completing the second week of discipleship in which we talked about the need to be baptized, he recognized his need to follow the Lord in this step. A few weeks later, we baptized him. (God's work moving forward, on the attack.)

Then there is the situation with the addition of our new sanctuary, a definite counterattack. As I had expressed in our last letter, we were moving forward with phase three because of our need for more space. We talked with several contractors and received several quotes. We selected a company with a good reputation and signed a contract for them to start construction. We paid them a deposit and the next week they started the work. After completing one wall and delivering the roofing material, the work stopped, and it became very difficult to get in contact with the contractor. After several weeks, the contractor confessed that he had lost our money and was trying find other jobs to get the money to continue the construction. We are looking into what is necessary to recover the funds.

In spite of counterattacks like these, we continue to see God working. This past Sunday was our highest attendance since starting in September. God brought in 33 people with seven first-time visitors and one young man saved in the service. Since we do not have enough space, we are using two separate rooms. We put a camera in the main room and a TV in the second room which holds 10 people. Both rooms were full this past Sunday. I have no clue what we will do for Christmas. (God's work moving forward, on the attack.)

Merry Christmas to all. Keep on praying for us!



#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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