

Leland, Naomi, Lincoln, and Lauren Johnson

missionaries to **Brazil**



November 1, 2019

We all know that our God is amazing, but sometimes, He just makes you stop and say wow!

Full disclosure... Furlough has been great, we have enjoyed being back in the States and seeing our family, our friends and our churches. But we still have several months left, and we are already ready to get back to Brazil. We are ready to get our new church plant started, and we are ready to see what God is going to do in the northeast of Brazil. But God has us here, for now, and it is amazing when you get to see His plans in action.

WHY IS A BRAZILIAN CATHOLIC YOUNG MAN IN A CHRISTIAN SCHOOL?

One of the great things has been to meet Brazilians and practice Portuguese with them. Several weeks ago, we were at a conference in North Carolina, and we were told that there was a Brazilian student in the school that we had to meet. Several of our supporting churches have Brazilians in their congregations and it is always great to get to talk with them in their language. However, this young man was different. He was a high-school exchange student and had only been in the US for a few months. During chapel he came up and introduced himself and we talked for a few minutes in Portuguese. After chapel, we continued our conversation, and I asked what church his parents attended in Brazil, and he said that they were Catholic. We talked a little more, and I was surprised to learn that he was Catholic as well. It took me a moment to process. Why would a Catholic family send their son to the US to a Baptist Christian school? It must be a God thing.

On Friday after chapel, he came to say goodbye. As we were talking, I asked him if he understood the things that were being preached. He said that he understood most of it, so I asked him if he would like to sit down for a few minutes and I would explain things to him in Portuguese. His face lit up, and he quickly agreed. We sat down for over an hour talking in Portuguese and with a Portuguese Bible, I explained God's saving grace to him. He asked question after question, and I wondered, "Is he really this interested, or does he just not want to go to his next class?" Yet, what an honor it was to have this young man bow his head and pray and receive Christ as his personal Savior at the end of our conversation! (Also, thank God for a school that prioritizes evangelism over academics!) How awesome God is that He would arrange to have us there to take part in this. Please pray for Guilherme that God would do a work in his life.

Please pray for us as well as we continue to travel. We have done another 7,000 miles since our last letter, and we are seeing God work, but the devil is fighting as well. We have a few more trips before the holidays, but for all the pastors that are asking, we will slow down (a bit) to enjoy the holidays with our families. God bless you all and thank you for praying!

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