

Brazil
Leland, Naomi, Lincoln, and Lauren Johnson

NORTHEASTERN

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For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. Prov 2:6

Within three hours of Naomi taking the first dose of the medication we knew that everything that God had shown us about her condition being related to long COVID was indeed the case. We knew this because she started feeling a painful shocking sensation in her hands and feet. The shocking sensation actually made the pain worse; however, we were very excited because this was the first time since May 2021 that any medication had had any effect at all. The shocking sensation and increased pain continued for the first two days, but on the morning of the third day...

When Naomi awoke, she said that there was a noticeable decrease in her pain level! It was down from an 8 to about a 5. It would be hard to describe the level of excitement that we felt about this. As the day wore on, the pain returned, but once again we were excited that something was happening.

The past several weeks have been up and down for her. At times Naomi's pain is a little worse than before, at times, especially in the morning, the pain is manageable. She still has another eight weeks on the medication, so we are looking forward to seeing what God is going to do in that time. But it is clear to us and the doctors that these issues are related to long COVID.

With this new information that God has miraculously supplied, we have talked extensively with the doctors as well as our pastor about the next steps. The medication that Naomi is on as well as the future treatments, if necessary, are available at most major medical centers, including those in Brazil. Naomi had expressed months ago that she was ready to return to Brazil and I confirmed with her that this was still her desire. I also talked with our pastor to make sure that we were not off base in our thinking, and he was in agreement. For those reasons, we booked our return tickets for Brazil for the end of August!

Even though Naomi is not yet healed, we came back to the US looking for answers and God has given them. As doctors and hospitals continue to work to understand what long COVID is, and how to treat it, we believe that God will continue to heal her body. The transition back to Brazil will be a process. We will need to set appointments with doctors there and get them up to speed on what is going on with her. We also need to work to see what this new phase of ministry will look like for us. Getting Naomi healthy will remain a top priority, but I will also be slowly integrating more ministry activity for me and the kids. Thank you for your prayers and support through this time of uncertainty; continue to pray for us. Lord willing, our next letter will be from Brazil!

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