

Leland, Naomi, Lincoln, and Lauren Johnson

missionaries to **Brazil**

February 12, 2019



What's at the end of a two-hour-long ride on a dirt road? If you had asked me this question a few years ago, I would have been hard-pressed to believe that you could still find a dirt road that long, much less one that ends at a small town with people hungry for the Bible. Yet, there it was.

...THE ENTIRE OLD TESTAMENT IN 4 DAYS!

It was nearly midnight when we arrived at the church in the town. As we got out of the car, we noticed that everything was covered in a layer of red dirt from the trip. My original plan was just to come to observe seminary classes, but at the last minute, one of the other missionaries who was supposed to come to teach became ill with pneumonia and they asked me if I would be willing to teach. I received my material—the entire Old Testament in four days—with just over a week to prepare with a preaching trip and wedding scheduled in between.

When class started, I was surprised to find a group of eighteen, most of whom were young men and women, who were there to study. For nine hours a day for four days, they devoted themselves to learning three different subjects while on a week-long break from work. Most of them had not felt the call to go into ministry but just wanted to learn more about God's Word.

That trip came in the middle of an exhausting fifteen-day stretch of flying to three different cities for ministry and spending just two nights at home. There is such a tremendous need for more workers in this area of the country.

While we are seeing God work in tremendous ways, we also have an area that needs your prayers. In front of the house that we rent, there is a gate that is about three feet tall. The gate had been broken for several months, but because it was not a security issue, the owner did not want to get it fixed. One day, some kids were playing in the street, and a toy they were playing with fell under the gate, so they tried to move the gate. When they did, they pushed the gate off of the track, and it fell on top of one of the kids, injuring him. I called the owner, and he came over and got the details of the situation from the neighbors, and the situation seemed to be closed. But a few days ago, we received notification that the parents are filing a lawsuit against the owners of the house and us. For those of you who immediately have the "American" thought, "I do not have any liability because the owner knew of the problem, and the kids moved the gate," I would ask you to be in prayer all the more. This is not America, and things do not always run that smoothly in the legal system, especially when there is a "rich American" involved.

On a much happier note, we are planning our first furlough after being here for nearly four years! How exciting it will be to get back to see you all! We are starting to schedule meetings starting in August of this year through March of 2020. We do not have a lot of space for full missions' conferences because of the number of visits that we need to complete, but we will do the best that we can. I will be reaching out to our supporting churches soon, but if you have a date that you would like to have us in, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can try to get that in our schedule first.

**FURLOUGH
AUGUST 2019
THROUGH
MARCH 2020**

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