

“Come, follow me,’ Jesus said, ‘and I will send you out to fish for people.” Matthew 4:19

February 2019

São João *The end of December was a whirlwind of activity. The day after the Christmas/New Year’s gathering at our house, we took a group of 15 adults and some kids using the mission boat, to São João once again. We left Benjamin at 4:30 am and spent the entire day constructing the church, sharing God’s love through the Christmas story with the children and women in the afternoon and celebrating the New Year and the very first service in this newly constructed church! This church is suspended almost 3 yards above the ground to keep it from flooding during rainy season. The guys did a great job building the little bridge from the suspended sidewalk to the church and finishing two of the walls. See for yourselves...*



The very next day, the barge from Manaus finally arrived after breaking down twice and being delayed more than a month. I spent the next two days classifying and organizing the Bibles, hymnbooks and Daily Bread devotionals that we purchased, along with all the boxes of Sunday school material that



was donated (30+). Our most special thanks to the Christian bookstore (CPAD) in downtown Manaus for their generosity and for their passion for helping churches in poor and distant regions disciple others and reach the lost! I am already working on putting together more Sunday school kits, using this material, to distribute among poor churches in remote river communities. We also donate quite a few to churches in the interior.



Training Pastors and Leaders

Another seminary training module with pastors and leaders from churches in river villages in Brazil and Peru was held January 2nd -5th in Islândia, Peru (a 15 min. boat ride from here) Wilson and his workers worked hard and fast to build and equip two bathrooms and showers install lights, a water box, etc. in the newly remodeled wooden church that was used for housing some of the pastors and leaders, along with a few wives and children. Wilson organized the daily schedule, subject matter for each class, housing, menu, cook and grocery shopping. It was awesome to partner with other pastors and leaders from Benjamin to help teach some of the classes.



Twenty-three pastors/leaders, from churches that were planted in the last seven years, were encouraged and blessed to learn more about missions, discipleship, etc. These pastors/leaders came from: **Buen Suceso, Santa Teresa, Japón, Cavalo Cocha, Santa Luzia, San Juan do Camucheiro and Islândia, Peru.** They had classes all morning, a two-hour meeting in the afternoon and services at night. It was intensive, but they returned to their field of service all pumped up to apply the Biblical principles that were taught and pass on what they learned to their church families. Next year the seminary module will be held middle of January for 10 days in Cavalo Cocha, Peru.



What a privilege to present their diplomas and give a shout of victory to the Lord!

Thank you so much for your passion and vision to help us reach people in distant, isolated river villages throughout the Amazon for Christ. The pastors and leaders of the churches you helped us plant (above) send their special thanks for your prayers and support as well! They hold you in their hearts and never forget to pray for you.

Wilson and a smaller boatload of people went to São João once again to hold the bi-weekly service. They arrived early afternoon in order to visit with folks from house to house, invite people to church and evangelize. Wilson has noticed that one lady from the village has always made sure to have a can of beer in her hands every time teams have made visits in order to discourage them from visiting with her. This time, however, she was the first person to arrive for the evening service. Wilson showed a short film on the miracle of the widow and the jars of oil and shared a message, this woman was the first one to run to the front and put her trust in Christ! ☺ We are always so blessed by the miracle of God's saving grace!!



Wilson and I are now in south Brazil for a few weeks to spend time with Wilson's mom. When we return, we will be gearing up for a mission trip with a group from Riverside Church from Peoria, IL.

*God bless,
Wilson and Lori*

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1-800-359-7623 (donor department at MAF)