

Greetings from the Amazon, Brazil.

May 2023

So much has happened lately that we are sending you news from the middle of March, when we welcomed Ben and Jessica's mission team of nine from the **First Baptist Church in El Dorado, KS**. I accompanied this team in place of Jessica, who needed to stay home with the kids. Chloe struggles a LOT with bug bites. It was awesome to have them join the group later, during their last three days! We were all so glad that Wilson and his brother, Neri, arrived from their travels in Peru just in time to go with us. 😊



Shortly after the team arrived, we headed directly to the Ticuna Indian village of **Feijoal**, where we took part in the Saturday evening service. Sunday morning, we taught dental hygiene, gave the



Sunday School Resources

children a fluoride treatment and told them a Bible story. We also participated in the Sunday evening service.

I was thrilled to see the children's Sunday school teacher making excellent use of the **Sunday School Curriculum** and resources I had provided for them.

In each service throughout the trip, Ben helped

Pr. Jordan, his wife **Mary**, **Asst. Pr. Matt**, **Caleb**, **Holly**, **Hannah**, **Chris**, **Steven**, and **Jake** introduce themselves. They sang a few songs and shared testimonies of how God transformed their lives. **What a tremendous blessing to have Pr. Jordan and Assistant Pr. Matt preach God's Word in each village.** The sermons were translated into Portuguese and then Ticuna and the messages were short, to the point and very powerful, impacting many lives!



The following morning, we headed over to a Ticuna village called **São José**. Wilson helped construct and establish the church there. We were grateful that the village leaders allowed us to teach dental hygiene and give fluoride



treatments in the local school. Due to some opposition, we were not allowed to sing or tell a Bible story.

Santa Cruz That afternoon, we travelled a short distance to the large Ticuna Indian village of **Santa Cruz**. The service that night was amazing. It was so much **FUN** teaching dental hygiene to the kids the following morning, listening to Mary share the Bible story of the **LOST LAMB** and playing with them....



Teaching dental hygiene.



Jesus is our GOOD SHEPHERD!



These girls are having a blast with the **HOMEMADE** jump ropes a church member made.



Even the little kids got to participate!

Sapotal Sapotal is a Cocama Indian village located on the other side of the river from Feijoal. Wilson passed by this village many times, but this trip God kept speaking to his heart to stop there for a visit, so we did! 😊

In Santa Cruz we were also able to fit the elderly with reading glasses. Next step...



We not only had the wonderful privilege of meeting the pastor and his family and praying for his young son, who was sick with a fever, but the pastor also arranged for the team to sing, share testimonies, and preach at a special church service that night.



The following morning, we were invited to teach dental hygiene, give the kids fluoride treatments, sing, and share a Bible story in the village school.

Islândia Our last service was held in Islândia, Peru, where Asst. **Pr. Matt shared the Word**. That night the bugs came out in droves. One dear lady was caring for one of the team members, swatting at and picking bugs off her... only what she thought was a “bug” ended up being a mole (hehehe).

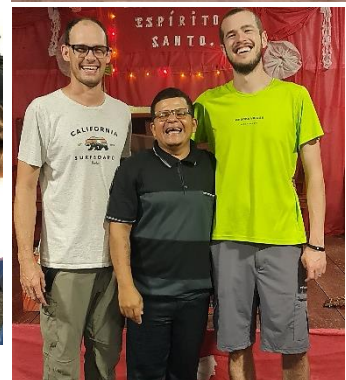
Besides all the fun watching the dolphins throughout the entire trip and jumping from the boat into the river, here are a few **HIGHLIGHTS** of the trip...



Preaching the Word.



Morning devotions.



Making new friends.

Ministering to the children.



We praise the Lord for this amazing team, for their humble hearts, their willingness to serve in so many ways, for the toothbrushes, school supplies, jump ropes, balls, and other resources they brought and for their **passion to reach the lost!** Through their help and partnership, God used them to richly bless us and make a difference for Christ in five river communities. We never cease to praise the Lord for YOU, our ministry partners, who continually back us up in prayer, faithfully meet our monthly support needs and serve the Lord with us to **GO to the ends of the earth and make disciples.** Because we are the body of Christ and God chooses to put us all together and use us as a **TEAM**, several people in those five villages trusted in Christ as their Lord and Savior and many others dedicated their lives to love and serve the Lord!

Wilson was so thankful that during the mission trip and subsequent visits to the river communities of **Lauro Saudré** and **Santa Luzia** he was able to personally invite the pastors and church leaders of these seven villages to the **4-day Seminary Training Module in Islândia the beginning of June.** Please pray with us for this upcoming event!



Lauro Saudré – Pr. Nestor



Santa Luzia – Pr. Enrique



At the end of March, it was time to say “good-bye” to Wilson’s brother, **Neri**, after a month-long visit. Together, Wilson and Neri visited 18 of the 37 churches we coordinate in this region. Neri also had the wonderful privilege of sharing testimonies, singing worship songs he wrote and playing his guitar and harmonica in almost all of them. Most of the people in these villages have never seen or heard a harmonica. 😊

Children’s Ministries

In April, I (Lori) had the wonderful privilege of sharing ideas with Sunday School teachers in Benjamin Constant and loaning Bible resources from the library for children’s ministries. **Elizângela** is a teacher at a local school and her church. She used the “Circus of Happiness” kit to teach the kids in her school that Jesus is the true source of happiness...



During Easter week she shared the story of Jesus's death and resurrection at both places, using the lesson plans I put together and other library resources...



The true meaning of Easter...



He is not here... He is Risen!



Jesus died for me!



Several years ago, **Elina** took the **Teacher Training Course** I teach. She now teaches at a local school and her church. Here she is sharing the Easter story using one of the flannelgraph kits that a mission team brought. It was fun helping her cut out the figures and organize her kit a few years back. Now it's awesome seeing her using these resources to teach children about their Creator, Savior and Lord!

All these ministries are a result of your prayers and partnership! Through YOU, God is reaching out to river communities, children, and families with the love of Christ, giving them the wonderful opportunity to hear God's Word and trust in Christ. Wilson and I send our special thanks to each of you for serving together with us and helping us reach the lost throughout the Amazon!

God bless, all our love and hugs, Wilson and Lori

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