

November 2019

CHRIST FOR SÃO LUÍS

A MINISTRY TO SÃO LUÍS, MARANHÃO, BRAZIL

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Dear Friends and Supporters,

I always liked the idea of having a day like Peter had when he converted 3,000 in one day. Or it could be like Philip and the whole city of Samaria. But it seems to be always the contrary. One here or there, like Paul in Athens or some desert road to nowhere. But it looks like a dream is going to come true. Yesterday I had two ladies ask me the same question. "Can a woman baptize some-one?" They both have people studying with them.

In the past you have heard of the old, old story of Silvestre and I with the Bible studies and sometimes Ruth. Now I have Caleb, Ranney, Silvestre, Maryjane and Layla. I have more people catching on to what the apostles had in mind with the priesthood of all believers. Having two or three times as many people involved in this ministry of Reconciliation, as Paul puts it, is magnificent. In July an elderly gentleman (former missionary) came and visited and went to all my Bible studies and was so impressed. When he sent a check to help the work here in São Luis, he included a note about how he felt with his experience. You will see the note he sent at the end of this newsletter. Of the five involved in making disciples, four are still studying the Bible with me. Imagine what could happen if we all got involved in the work of our Lord Jesus Christ. There may be other ways to make disciples other than Bible studies. But I have not seen it happen here.

In the past two months my studies have changed a lot. At present, I have no Greek students. I have three studies in Acts. I also have two studies in Hebrews. The other studies are in Matthew, 2 Thessalonians, 1 Corinthians, Exodus, Ezequiel, Isaiah, Colossians and I have one study that is still to be determined. I am always looking to add more studies.

Besides a monthly men's and women's meeting with the Santos Dumont church, Ruth also has a weekly Ladies meeting with the ladies of the São Francisco church.

A thief broke into the church building and stole the amplifier, so worship has been a challenge. No more data show and less micro phones. Last week Rousaniel brought his sound system and we were able to have two microphones and the guitar. Rousaniel and João Carlos are trying to find a better solution but the church is with very little money. We at least have everybody sitting closer to one another.

Pray for the success of the Bible studies. The more the message is spread, the more disciples will be made. Pray for Angelica's recovery. She was run over by a motorcycle and has a broken leg. It is healing well but the doctor says it will take a long time to get her back to normal. Silvestre's pains continue but the doctor says it has nothing to do with his heart. I have some back problems but it seems to be getting better with more exercise.

The church here is with some unity problems. Pray that the problem will not get worse. It is an old problem that stems from our last furlough and the hurt feelings run deep

Thanks for all of your support over the years. The number of people involved in making disciples shows that it is paying off. We have many others that could be involved but haven't yet.

We no longer have a landline phone. For most of you that is nothing. It is more complicated to keep in touch with my mom. Internet is questionable from day to day. But the work continues and we hope to have much more to share with you in the future.

In Christ

John, Ruth and Caleb

Note from Dale (past missionary to Belem Brazil, some 50 years ago, that knew Ruth) – “A grateful thank you to John & Ruth Navis and for their kind and thoughtful hospitality in their home in Sao Luis Brazil. The service they are doing is amazing, building the Kingdom of God. I am very grateful for the privilege of being with them in the mission works and meeting the precious people they are bringing to know the Lord. Respectfully - Dale Mason”



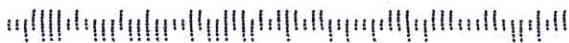
John & Youth Group



John & Dale Mason



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