



BAPTIST COURIERS FOR CHRIST

EST 1979

June 2026

Staff Family Update

John and Esther Meyer

by Esther Meyer

During the Hope for the Valley Scripture Campaign in southern Brazil, John and I were reminded that God is not concerned with world affairs solely, but is concerned with the individual. It is so amazing to think of God being so fully in control of all things in life, yet he hears each one of us personally when we bow before his throne, all the while still controlling the whole universe. It was a good reminder once again as we were in Brazil in the fall.

One such individual was Janet, who watched as we put John and Romans and invitations in her neighbors' gates and mailboxes, then finally hers. She said she needed to check it out, so she brought hers in and she just knew that she needed to come to the meeting. At the evangelistic service, she received Christ with tears in her eyes. God orchestrates our timing and our plans, he convicts the hearts, and he does the work. Our work was easy. All we had to do was make sure she got a John and Romans and an invitation, and God did the great work.

We had the unique opportunity to visit a school in Roca Sales, Rio Grande De Sol. As I snapped photos of the eager faces of the precious souls excited to assemble in the gym, it really surprised me to see the diverse looks of the children. I guess I had assumed all Brazilians were dark haired



We climbed this mountain to reach every house with a portion of God's word, and he rewarded our labor for him with this amazing view of his creation. It smote our hearts that each house needed Christ!



John with school boy and Esther with school girls

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Brethren pray for us...

As you read this newsletter, we will be finalizing the details and preparing to leave for our summer Scripture Distribution Campaign in Stuttgart, Germany. God has blessed us with 42 team members from churches across the USA to work with Patrick and Christelle Jobway and their young church plant to evangelize the area by sowing the seed of the gospel. Please pray for safety, strength, open hands, open hearts, souls to be saved, the church strengthened, and new members added as a result of our feeble efforts. We serve a God that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we can ask or think. Our outreach is June 8-20. If you would like to e-mail me during one of those days with a word of encouragement for our team, I will read it during the morning team meeting.

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It is our earnest desire to glorify our Lord and Saviour throughout all that is done while on this campaign. We count it a privilege to serve him together with you for the furtherance of the gospel.

“Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified...”

- II Thessalonians 3:1 -

Staff Family Update

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and dark complexioned but there were children that look just as light skinned and blonde as the missionary children! There were red heads with freckles and heads with curls. Come to find out, the Rio Grande De Sol had been settled by 70% Europeans, so the people there are similar in looks to Americans and still have the same great need of Jesus! Ms. Tati (a lady from Brother Nathan Ring's dad's church), captured and held the children's attention with an amazing illustration of Jesus' love and salvation and each person's great need for Jesus as personal Saviour. Pastor Antonio and Brother Ring also shared Bible verses in confirmation with Ms. Tati's lesson; we know that God's word does not return void! We continue to pray that the seeds sown that day will take root and change each precious life to live for Jesus. At the end all the children were all given a John and Romans to take home, and we continue to pray that the portions of scripture will change their whole families' lives and eternal destinations. The teachers also listened intently, and each of them was given a whole Bible! Hallelujah! The Hope for the Valley (the gospel message of Jesus Christ) was placed into the homes and schools of the valley! Can you imagine trying to do this in the United States?

Some extra glimpses of God's goodness to us is that he allowed us to experience his amazing creation in seeing the beauty of Brazil and even getting to delight in his unique creatures he has put there! John and I both also enjoyed the Brazilian cuisine. John especially delighted in the All You Can Eat Brazilian Pizza Restaurant, and he actually had to tell them to stop bringing out pizza! I found that I greatly enjoyed any of the Brazilian food I had opportunity to try, but especially the guava paste and was excited to bring some home to make a guava cheesecake for the holidays to share with family! We are so humbled and very grateful to be able to serve the Lord in this amazing capacity!



“The teachers also listened intently, and each of them was given a whole Bible! Hallelujah!”



Photos starting at top of page: Esther with a group of ladies with Janet, who came to Christ (second from left)

John and Esther with their new special friend Mercy

Esther with Mrs. Ring

A delicious Brazilian lunch with our team

John getting more pizza!

Can God Furnish a Table *in the wilderness?*

Part II - by Don Stertz



Don preaching Sunday morning service with Joseph Hodges interpreting

During the ladies conference in Honduras (Laura Stertz's report appeared in our last newsletter) Pastor Sam Hodges took the men and their sons out to their camp for an overnight retreat. (A Korean ministry had left Honduras and asked Brother Sam if he would like to have their 40-acre camp for New Life Baptist Church with no strings attached. He accepted this incredible gift!) Some of the men prepared an excellent dinner for us to enjoy. Later in the evening they built a bonfire and asked me to relate to them some of the harrowing experiences we had getting Bibles and Christian literature into the communist countries. I spent about half an hour sharing some of the experiences that we had.

Throughout the week Laura and I had opportunities to speak to multiple classes of different age groups, which was a real blessing to us as the students listened so intently. I also had the privilege to preach twice to their seminary class of about 50 students. I fielded many questions and thoroughly enjoyed my time with these enthusiastic young people.

The Sunday morning church service was absolutely fantastic! Around 500 attended and when the congregation sang the hymns it was incredible! Several ensemble groups also ministered with special music, which really blessed my

heart. Then I had the privilege of preaching with Joseph Hodges (Sam's son) interpreting. Our Lord richly blessed, and when the invitation was given the altar was packed with those making life-changing decisions. One young man, Carlos, received Christ as his Saviour. Sunday afternoon we traveled up to the capital city of Tegucigalpa to hold an evening service there. The former pastor had died and the men of the church asked Pastor Hodges if he would be



Carlos newly-saved

willing to be the interim pastor. That evening an ensemble of 14 Americans from Faith Baptist Church, Oak Creek, Wisconsin (Pastor Dean Noonan) blessed the church with a song. Once again I had the privilege to preach with Joseph Hodges translating.

On Monday morning our team of about 30, including Pastor Noonan's young people, returned to Tegucigalpa to pass out some scriptures and tracts. The Honduran people were very receptive, and in about one hour all of our scriptures and tracts were distributed!

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Pastor Hodges speaking during Sunday evening service in Tegucigalpa



Don teaching a class of junior-age students

Can God Furnish a Table *in the wilderness?*

What really stood out to me was how warm and friendly the Honduran people are. Laura and I were thrilled to have had this incredible opportunity and are looking forward to the possibility of ministering again in Honduras.



Sunday school class that Laura had the privilege of teaching



Laura with a Honduran lady holding scripture portion



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