

Oi a Todos!

June 5, 2012

Hola!!!

Como estas? I'm back in Mexico City now after another month spent all over Brazil! It's good to be back and be able to speak Spanish and be with my friends from the city, but we really did have an amazing time in Brazil and I think we all kind of miss it...

LAJEADO

When I last wrote you, we were a couple weeks into our time in the south of Brazil, in Lajeado. We stayed there a little over 3 weeks in total. Out of all the places we went in Brazil, Lajeado was my favorite! Since we were there the longest, and because of the types of ministries we were getting involved in, we were able to make a lot more friendships that we could build upon. I'm totally a relational person, so I love being able to walk alongside people and disciple them and show them who God is in a practical, everyday kind of way. There were 2 different couples that I feel I really got to invest in during our time there. The first is a couple that goes to the small group we were helping out with in our house. They're young, new Christians, who are just hungry for God and so open to learning and helping out. The other is a couple that just went through a really hard season where their former pastor started spreading all these rumors and virtually ruined their reputation and forced them out of the church that they had been a part of for many years. They were very wounded and confused. They came with us to church for the first time in months and I really connected with the wife. We're trying to get them to come do their DTS next January!



IGUASSU FALLS

The next place we went was Iguassu Falls, which is where Paraguay, Argentina, and Brazil all meet. We worked with several rehab centers, an indigenous group in Paraguay, a couple different churches, a discipleship ministry for the neighborhood the base is in, and with prostitutes. The base is in the middle of a prostitution zone where there are motels on almost every street corner with different girls standing or sitting outside at all hours of the day and night. In one of our intercession times, we walked around and prayed over many of the hotels and the area in general. Then toward the end of the week, we went out with a couple girls who have begun a ministry with the prostitutes. My group ended up talking to a gay prostitute for over an hour as he shared with us his story of how he ended up on the streets. With the city being a tri-border city, it is a prime place for prostitution and human trafficking as it is a lot harder to fight against with the 3 different governments and different languages. It broke my heart to hear the stories of the different men and women on the streets. Please pray for them!

THE AMAZONS

We spent our last 9 days in Manaus, in the north, in the Amazons. We worked with the YWAM base there, going into different communities up and down the river and helping out in a children's home and school that the base started over 10 years ago. This was the hardest place for me because of the extreme nature of our conditions, but I loved getting to know the people and being a



part of their way of life and getting to help out even in the little things. I think it was the perfect way for our team to end our time in Brazil. We really saw God move and touch people's lives through us throughout our outreach. I hope that one day God leads me back there again!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- * for all the people we shared the gospel with in Brazil - those that accepted Christ and those that didn't - that that seed would grow and they'd come to know God more
- * for the prostitutes in Iguassu Falls, that they would find a way out and be able to see themselves in the way that God sees them
- * for our transition back into Mexico City, and to be able to finish this DTS well (graduation is June 22nd)

Thank you all for your prayers and support. I love hearing from you and I appreciate knowing that so many of you have been praying for me!

Dios les bendiga,

Cassandra

Rcv'd May \$_____

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