

This month and July Brazil will be hosting the World Cup of soccer. Somewhat like our Super Bowl, but games every day with teams from all over the world, and fans that live and breathe the game of soccer. In the world of soccer the highest honor is to host this event.

(Put Me in Coach)



Brazil has invested millions, had protests and riots because of these costs, to have this honor. Certainly millions of people will travel to Brazil and spend millions of dollars to have the "World Cup experience," but at what cost to the people of Brazil?

People have lost their homes, flattening entire neighborhoods to build new stadiums. Diverting money that could be used for schools and hospitals to make new airport runways to accommodate increased traffic.



(soccer dreams are so far away)

A missionary couple got a first-hand experience of how things can go in Brazil when their son broke both his wrists in a fall. There were no available ambulances that could take him to a hospital, 1st hospital the x-ray machine did not work, 2nd hospital there was no one to read the x-ray, 3rd hospital gave him Ibuprofen and made an appointment for him to return on another day. They finally took him to a private hospital where they were able to do surgery on his arm. This was not in some jungle, but Recife, one of the largest cities in Brazil and where they built a new stadium for the 3 games that will be played in that city. The missionaries while going through a heart wrenching experience with their son were finally able to acquire the medical care for their son. The sad truth is that this would be a normal experience for most Brazilians, but their sons would not had options and would have been stuck with whatever care or no care they were able to get. This is why people have taken to the streets in protests, police have gone on strike, almost every group of organized workers has been on strike this year to try and highlight the inequalities of what is their everyday struggle.

We stand with the people of Brazil and say there is a better way and it is possible here and now.

Many groups and churches are having month long prayer and fasting during the world cup and will be taking to the streets to present a different face of Brazil. Brazil is not just soccer, samba and beaches, but filled with hard working people who love their country and want the best that God has for them. Not just the best soccer team, but the best future for their children.



(waiting for someone to help)

One of the best compliments that I have received was when a Brazilian pastor introduced me and said that many people say a lot of things, promise many things and then you never see or hear from them. Then she said that Brazilian Children's Outreach, Teena and her crew have never failed on a promise or commitment and many are being blessed by this ministry. A compliment said in my presence, but made possible by everyone that is involved either with finances, prayer or sweat equity.

One of the activities that we sponsored was to print an interactive book that the workers could use with

abused children. The book was written and illustrated by Carla Ives of Heart Cry Ministries and is called "the bear who growled". Carla Ives graciously allowed us to translate and use it for a week long training program with teachers, parents and children concentrating on the abuse and sexual exploitation of children. It was very well attended and hopefully, we have given them some tools to fight back against this epidemic. The book will also be used in 2 other ministries. In our child evangelism program with Ana Paula and with Kesia and members of her church who work with children ministries.

Pray for the workers as they are in the streets confronting the abusers and rescuing children and women. Pray that for their protection and wisdom in how to deal with the battle they will face; guard their minds and hearts for what they will see and experience in this battle. Then pray for the victory that will come from the hearts of those healed and transformed.



(Waiting For Us)

All of us at Brazilian Children's Outreach, want to wish you a very blessed 4th of July; taking the opportunity to celebrate the most wonderful country in the world. Blessings from Teena and all the BCO crew.

