

A friend told me that I should write a personal letter to our partners. Telling of how this work affected my life and my family. Well, this work affects everything and everyday of my life. It makes me a better person because it allows me the privilege to serve others and affect their lives for the Kingdom.

This last trip was a very personal one. My brother, Pastor James Hart; and I went together. He had not been to Brazil for 5 years and this was his first trip to Brazil without my mother. It allowed him to say goodbye to an old work. It was very emotional for us saying goodbye to a work my parents and many others had built with blood, sweat and tears, but it is and always will be God's work and He is in control. The work and school has been a blessing to this community and many Godly works have birth out of the people who were part of it. We have now given the school and all the property over to the Nationals and pray that God blesses them in all their endeavors.

Jim was able to see, first hand, all the new works that are going on. He visited places and meet people that he had never seen before. He was able to experience what God is continuing to do through this work and it blessed his heart.

One thing I learned with my mother is that you have to be present to be a blessing to someone. If you are not there then you miss the opportunity that God provided to bless others and feel His presence. We had such an opportunity when we went to visit a family in Jardim Progresso. The Carmo family has 6 people living in a 2 room house and a new baby boy, Maicon Martin do Carmo. He was just 6 days old and Carolina his other was proud to introduce him to us.

When we were leaving their house and praying for the family we asked if we could dedicate the baby. They said they would be honored to have this blessing and Pastor James did the honors. Being present this time meant dedicating this baby and covering him with the power and blessing of the King. If we had not been there we all would have missed this opportunity.



(James, baby Martins and mom)

One thing you have to know is that you do not go into these communities if not accompanied or invited. We must wear name tags or tee shirts that identify us as part of a known group that works in these communities.



(Our Gang)

Jer. 29:11 (NIV)

"For I know the plans that I have for you," Declares the Lord, "Plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."

We were to visit other communities but there was not a resident of them to accompany us so we had to stay out. We were able to go to other homes and visited other families that day but the biggest impact was the last house we visited. We walked down a narrow path and came upon a house in back behind 3 other houses.



(Getting there is half the battle)

The house is 4 rooms, kitchen, 2 bedrooms and a bath. What we saw inside was an amazing collection of people. People everywhere, we almost stepped on 2 girls sleeping on the floor because we could not see them.



(Bedroom #1)

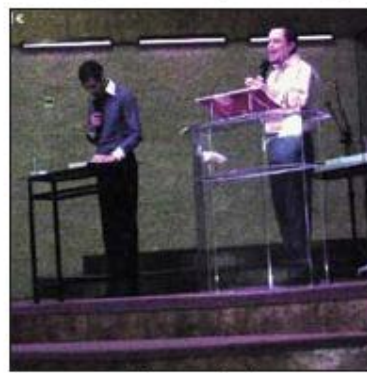
I asked the mother how many lived there and she said around 15. She could not even give us a positive number because she says her daughters come and go so much she can not keep up.



(Bedroom #2)

She told that without our help and support that her life would not be possible and that it has changed for the better.

These were just 2 of the families that make up part of the group of 100 families that we serve through our partnership with the Novidade church. Every month a group of volunteers goes 3 times a month into these communities bringing food, guidance and the word of God. God is moving and blessing this work; please keep it in your prayers.



(Pastor Jim)

Pastor James was also able to preach and blessed the people with a powerful message.

We also had about 20 people come to the service who all grew up with my parents, worked or attended the school at Maanaim; what a joy for us.

Every day I miss my mother and every day I am thankful for what she taught us. Her and my father dedicated their lives to God and Brazil and dragged us kicking and screaming along with them



(Mom & Me)



(Mom & Her Girls)

I guess the old saying, "your parents know best" was correct for our lives. We were changed for the better and are dedicating our lives to the good work.

