

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness,  
who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of  
the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Cor. 4:6

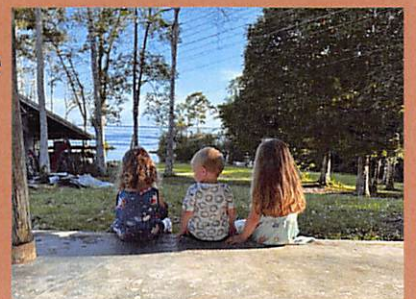
## Back in Brazil!

Dear friends and Family,

After five months of traveling, catching up with so many friends and churches, and making many special memories with family, we finally made it back to Brazil on June 2<sup>nd</sup>! Although, for those who don't know, we did not move back to the same part of Brazil where we'd been living for a year and a half (central Brazil.) Rather, this time we've officially moved to the North part of the country, specifically the city of Manaus, which lies on the banks of the Amazon River.

## Hitting the ground running

At the end of May, we had the joy of participating in my (Spencer's) cousin's wedding, with our girls getting the chance to be flower girls as well, which they loved! It was a sweet time, but also busy, as we flew from West Virginia to Florida the day after the wedding and then on to Brazil that same day. Not only that, but after getting in, we had to hit the ground running on paperwork needs, specifically applying for permanent residency here in Brazil. We thank God that we were able to gather all the documents we needed, and it was all accepted! Thank you for all who prayed for that process! After that, we bought groceries and prepared to move from the guest house in the city out to the Puraquequara Missionary Kid School (20 min. downriver from the city), where we will stay until the end of this year. There is much more space on the school campus for our kids to play than in the city, and it affords us the opportunity to help out with some needs here, such as maintenance, construction, and remodeling







The name of the Lord is a strong tower;  
The righteous run to it and are safe.

Proverbs 18:10

NKJV

## Our "Strong Tower"

As we announced in our last update, we were surprised but equally excited to discover earlier this year that we are expecting our fourth child in October! We thank the Lord so much for this precious baby GIRL! That's right, Judah will be the one boy in a sea of girls. :) While we were still in the states, we were considering baby names, and one option that was brought up was "Madelyn," which means "High Tower." We fell in love with the name not just because it sounds nice to have, "Abby, Gabby, and Maddie" 😊, but also because the precious truth of which the name reminds us.

*"The name of the Lord is a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe." (Prov. 18:10)*

So far this year, we haven't spent more than six or seven weeks at a time in the same place before moving somewhere else. And even though we are back in Brazil, there are some political complications that persist in regard to our desire to build our house among the X people group. (We and our team are working toward a solution, but we don't know exactly how long it will take.) Thus, in the midst of one of the most uncertain, transitional years our family has experienced so far, we find ourselves needing to go back to this truth now more than ever: that name of the Lord is our strong tower. The NAME of the Lord, that is, all the characteristics of God that are represented in His names, are our refuge. When the parenting days are long and Joanna and I feel weak, we run to El Shaddai, "God Almighty." When we feel isolated and alone because of culture stress, we know El Roi, the God who saw Hagar, sees us also. When we feel that we just aren't enough and keep stumbling into outbursts of anger, impatience, (fill in the blank), we rest in Jehovah Tsidkenu, "The Lord our Righteousness." And the list could go on. This is what we run to when we are threatened, weak, and needy. The name of the Lord is our strong tower. When we choose to run to it, we truly are safe. We ask the Lord that we would always remember to run to His mighty name whenever we see baby Madelyn.



## Praises

- For the sweet memories made with friends and family in Florida and West Virginia before moving back to Brazil.
- We were able to get all our documents together and be accepted for permanent Brazilian residency!!!
- For the opportunity to live and volunteer at the Puraquequara Missionary Kid school for the summer.
- For friends who have provided reflexology and other much-appreciated assistance to Joanna this pregnancy.

## Prayer Requests

- For the entry situation with the X people group to be resolved quickly, but in God's perfect timing.
- For wisdom in next steps for the rest of the year — what to invest our time into as we wait for the green light to go in and build our house in the tribe.
- For us as a family to always run to the mighty name of the Lord in parenting, work, decisions, etc.

Thank you so much for keeping up with us and for your prayers and support! Please reply to this email and let us know how you are doing and how we can pray for you, as well! ❤️

All for His glory,  
Spencer & Joanna



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