

Brazil 2018



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SPECIAL FEATURE:

Pastor John prayed for the governor of Brasília, the federal district and capital of Brazil.



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SPECIAL EVENT:

Vinesong ministered at Ministério da Fé, one of the largest churches in Brazil.



Hundreds Receive Christ in Brazil

Brazil is the largest nation in South America and is currently experiencing a political crisis. We are praying for a total transformation of the country.

We witnessed miracle after miracle throughout 4 cities as hundreds upon hundreds of people prayed to receive salvation through Jesus Christ. As a team, we recognise the importance and significance of our prayer times whenever we come together to pray about nations where we are planning to minister. We receive many invites but trust the Lord to lead us to the

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right country at the right time. This time, it had been 4 years after our first invite to minister in Brazil and we felt led to return this year. After looking at the dates and finding confirmation from the Holy Spirit, we discovered that we would minister in various cities only one month before the country's most important election cycle to date.

That was our ultimate confirmation. In the past, this wonderful country has been prevented from excelling and becoming a contending force among nations. Now, it is recovering from the communist leadership and evil intentions set forth by works of the enemy. We believe that the Lord wants to pour out a strategic blessing into the people of Brazil and the future of the nation.



The elections took place on the day of our final ministry in São Paulo. During this election season, Brazilians are praying for a different

type of President: one who will help to pull them out of their financial recession and be someone who will do the things that they

BRAZILIAN ELECTIONS

Sunday 7th October, marked the first round of voting. A Presidential candidate is elected if they win 51% or more of the vote during the first round. If not, then further rounds of voting take place between the two leading candidates, until a majority is reached. In 2014, we left just before the actual election. Dilma Rousseff was elected and then later impeached after 2 years after being convicted of corruption. One of Brazil's previous and most-loved Presidents, known simply as Lula (which actually means octopus in Portuguese) was jailed for corruption in 2018 and is now serving a 12 year sentence. Brazilians are fed up with politicians who put on a façade for the public, but meanwhile are only interested in enriching themselves at the expense of millions of people who live in total poverty.



promise to do. This election is about saying no to corruption and nepotism (putting family members and friends into high positions), no to the breakdown of family and the true definition of family (A mother - born female, a father - born male, and children raised in the biological gender they were born in) and yes to a leader that will not be afraid to risk being unpopular, for the sake of the greater good and godliness of a nation.

Our coming to Brazil at this time is no coincidence and our prayer is that our time in the nation will be spiritually fruitful and that many would come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Our heart is also that people would step away from religiosity and legalism in the Church and walk into a fresh, exciting and dynamic relationship with God. A relationship that recognizes that Christ in us - the hope of glory! (Colossians 1:27)

A photograph of a person from the waist down, wearing dark clothing, holding a book. The person is standing in a field of dry, brown grass. The text "CHRIST IN YOU" is overlaid in large, light-colored, sans-serif capital letters across the upper part of the image. Below it, "THE HOPE OF GLORY" is overlaid in a similar font and color, though slightly smaller and more widely spaced.

CHRIST IN YOU

THE HOPE OF GLORY

RIO DE JANEIRO

After spending one month in Poland, we had only one week to prepare and loosen our tongues to sing in yet another language. On September 12, we left for our first stop, Rio de Janeiro. In the midst of a city stricken by crime, voodoo, and sexual immorality, stands Christ the Redeemer. Perched on one of its highest peaks, this statue stretches over the city with

arms wide open. Similarly, the people of Brazil extend an unbelievable openness of hospitality and love to receive missionaries. Our hearts leapt for joy at this spiritual embrace. Few other countries can contend with our Brazilian brothers and sisters' warmth and passion to make one feel so welcome.

GREETED WITH LOVE

Our first stop very much mirrored that with big smiles and tight hugs awaiting us at the airport. We were going to experience a level of love and acceptance like never before even though Pastor Cristiano and his team had never met us or sat under our ministry.

He has been a pastor for many years, who started a church with 4 people and 8 years later was very proud to introduce us to his 400-member strong congregation. He is so passionate to see spiritual growth in those he has discipled and to see newborns come into the Kingdom.

Pastor Cristiano with his son



As a team we did not know what to expect as the language barrier proved to be a problem at times logistically, but spiritually, we proved that no matter the language, the Holy Spirit will move and change people's lives as He pleases. What a joy to see tears flowing with a spirit of repentance and arms outstretched with joy in worship!



Throughout our multiple ministries at 3 different churches, so many people came forward for salvation and healing. Oh, what a joy that we could rejoice with the whole host of heaven for each and every soul that came and cried out to Jesus. And this was only the first city! May we go from glory to glory as see how Jesus uses worship and the Word to wash over tired souls and soothe restless spirits!



GOIANIA

After a busy weekend in different churches in Rio, we headed off to Goiania where we were delighted to see familiar faces, our friends, Pastor Itamar and Valdirene Batista (CEO's of Marka da Paz - a very successful Christian clothing company). Their home served as our hub during our time in Goiania and we are so grateful for all their help and love.

We are still plowing new soil here in Brazil with the Portuguese versions of our songs, but



everywhere we went, people sang along. From the very first song, they worshipped with us,

crying out to Jesus for the healing of their land. Loud and clear we sang:

“Jesus You are the Lord of Brazil!
You are our God, the God who answers prayer.
We ask You today, remove our doubt and fear
A nation we stand in faith and victory!”

Pastor John spoke on abandoning the spirit of religion in Brazil and entering a relationship with Jesus, and embracing that Christ is in us; the hope of glory” (Col 1:25-28)

Pure worship is what will bring freedom to the oppressed who still seek justification through human works. Pastor John shared what the apostle Paul wrote about Christ being in us, laboring through us, rather than looking down from a distant realm, waiting to see what we will do wrong.

We saw many people come seeking release from pain and hurt, and the Lord healed them and is preparing His church, empowering them and setting them on fire for the coming revival. We rejoiced as we saw more and more people at every meeting coming forward for salvation, healing and restoration!

During our stay in Goiania, we were privileged to be received by our beloved friends, Pastor Giles and Silvia Stevens. Giles is a Director on the Vinesong Ministries board and we are grateful for his wisdom and input. Our time with them was one of refreshment for our souls, as fellow workers in the body of Christ. Giles, an Englishman, has a great ministry in Brazil and conducts many evangelistic outreaches that see thousands come to the knowledge of Christ and His finished work on the cross. We thank them for all their help while we ministered in Brazil.



In Brazil plans can change very quickly and as long as you are able to go with the flow, then you can keep up. We found out that we were ministering at the main Assemblies of God Church in Goiânia on Sunday morning only the night before. Our time of ministry there turned out to be very powerful and fruitful.



Telmo, a travel agent referred to us by Giles for booking internal flights, came to our last and final meeting in Goiania. He injured his arm when he fell out of a bus and tore the muscles. Daniel

prayed for him following the meeting and he was immediately able to raise his arm, saying that he had been healed! He couldn't believe it, and we were totally amazed at God's love and unwavering faithfulness!



BRASILIA

Daniel and Giles worked hard on getting us road transport from Goiânia to Brasília, a journey of around 3 hours. After all their time and effort, we were able to get a great van which was able to take us and all of our luggage and equipment. If you've seen what our combined equipment and luggage looks like, along with 6 adults and a child, you'd definitely be thanking God along with us 😊.

We had an amazing few days at [Igreja Catedral da Bênção - ICB](#) in Brasília, a denomination that has churches in all the states throughout Brazil.

We had many special moments including celebrating the 80th birthday of Missionary Ruth, one of the founding Pastors of the denomination.

Missionary Ruth De Oliveira, along with her late husband, Apostle Doriel De Oliveira, who sadly passed away two years ago, began their missionary endeavours 54 years ago. The church has over 100 plants all over the country and many Pastors travelled from all over Brazil to celebrate her 80th with her and to thank God for her life.



SPECIAL FEATURE

We were invited to sing at a breakfast meeting for the governor of Brasilia, Rodrigo Rollemberg, who was seeking re-election. Pastor John was specially asked to pray for him.



More than 50 pastors, leaders of denominations were present as we declared that Jesus was the Lord over Brazil. Based on our short time of worship at that meeting, the governor came to the church service later on that evening to hear us sing the "Prayer Anthem" for Brazil again.

One of the most significant moments we had was on Sunday night, before the evening service, we held a short worship workshop with the worship team. Pastor John spoke about many aspects of worship and Charlene shared on purity in the worship team. We worshipped together in song and then invited the worship team to come to the altar for prayer. As we started to pray for the each member of the team, there was a loud crack of thunder, the heavens opened and rain poured down, drenching the dry ground.

It's hard to put into words what we experienced, but the timing of the thunder and the rain, just as we started to pray for the worship team was symbolic of what God was doing spiritually. Physically, the atmosphere changed, the oppression of the physical heat and humidity was broken as the rain poured down cleansing away the dust and dirt. The thunder was characteristic of a breakthrough, the rain a signal of new beginnings. As the rain washed the streets, God was washing and watering hearts and lives.



After the weekend of ministry, Pastor Jeremias invited us to to their Monday morning Pastors meeting to speak to them about Nigeria and the Redeemed Christian Church of God, Holy Ghost Congress which takes place in December every year. It was at the Holy Ghost Congress around 5 years ago that Vinesong met Apostle Doriel and Pastor Jeremias. Daniel took on the challenge of representing the team and speaking about the Congress. He was able to give them a brief background on RCCG and give them an idea of what Congress looks like by showing them one of the videos we had produced. He went on to challenge them and encourage them in their calling,

telling them that faith and obedience go hand in hand. By giving the example of the founder of the RCCG and his successor, Pastor Adeboye, the pastors were encouraged to dream big and to allow God to use them to do great things in Brazil. In relating the story of RCCG in Nigeria and worldwide, the pastors were also able to make the connection to how their church was founded. The message to continue the walk of faith and obedience to God, whatever the cost, resonated deeply with them. There was an awesome presence of God in the room as the pastors were reminded of their calling and commitment to their first love, Jesus Christ.



After these meetings at Catedral Da Benção, we had another spontaneous meeting organised by Pastor Jeremias at a church called Ministério da Fé with Pastor Hugo.

This church seated a few thousand people and was almost full for a mid-week meeting, the night before we flew to São Paulo. The next morning we had to be up by 3am for a flight, so it was a miracle that this meeting could happen at all.



After an incredible worship service, the entire congregation gathered for prayer for the country and the elections. There was an awesome presence of the Lord as people lifted up the nation in solidarity and prayed for God's will to be done.

São Paulo

Before we even arrived, we knew that we were in safe and loving hands with **Igreja Metodista Renova** São Paulo. They invited us based on a referral from a Pastor in Rio whom we had ministered with during our last tour. Nothing was too much to ask and they were so gracious in accommodating us and making sure that all our needs were met.



Pastor Alex, who was our main contact was great and when we arrived at the airport early on a Wednesday morning he greeted us with a massive smile and hugs, even though we had never met him before. Everyone that we met at the church was so friendly and servant hearted which was so refreshing.



Our ministry at the church on the day of the elections was very special and precious. Many people came forward for salvation and many people also expressed their gratitude for our ministry, that God had used it refresh and restore them.

On our first tour of Brazil, we met an amazing family, that we had so much fun with!

Heverson and Etiene Miranda Silva were such a blessing and so great to hang out with during our last stay. They have two children Daniel 12 (almost 13) and Amanda. This time around, we found out that their son, Daniel, has a rare form of blood based cancer which affects the blood in his bone marrow. He was diagnosed at the end of May and as we arrived in São Paulo, we found out that he was in a hospital getting treatment not too far away from where we were staying. Etiene told us that they had been in hospital for around 25 days already and that she was staying with Daniel 24/7 in his room. Heverson and their daughter Amanda are travelling in to see them every other day since she returned to school from holiday.



Our Daniel, Charlene and Rachael went to pray for Daniel and encourage his parents. They had to put on face masks and a disposable hospital gowns before entering his room to minimise the risk of infection from outside contact. Well, who would have known that this hospital room would not only be a joyous reunion in spite of the circumstances, but also the epicenter of so much fun and laughter on that hospital ward. It has been a very difficult time for the whole family and especially for Daniel, who has experienced agonising pain and

complications due to his condition. We were so blessed by Daniel's outlook and attitude. His mother said that he doesn't complain, and with his playful nature, he is always ready with a joke or a hilarious comment. Even in the most excruciating pain, he finds something humorous to say.

Needless to say, he is well loved by all the nurses and hospital staff that come into contact with him. The family received good news that a donor has been found with 100% match for his bone marrow. After a few doses of Chemotherapy, the bone marrow transplant took place on 10th October, which should be the final cure for his condition. After the transplant he has to stay in hospital for another 25 days. Please join us as we stand in agreement with him and his family and trust God for his complete healing and restoration.

We pray that:

- That the transplant would bring total healing with no complications
- He would recover faster and better than any of his Doctors and specialists have predicted
- He would be a testimony of God's mercy, lovingkindness, healing power, and grace
- His doctors, nurses and the hospital staff would be saved as they are touched by the love of Jesus through the lives of Daniel and his whole family
- The family would grow stronger together, and their love for Jesus would be evident to all
- Daniel's sister, Amanda, would feel special and loved, even as so much attention is given to her brother
- God would receive all the glory for Daniel's life and healing

And Finally

No tour is possible without the help of many people who do all they can to help us in many ways, practically and spiritually. Special thanks to Giles and Silvie for all they did to assist us on this tour logistically, practically and for their friendship and the times of fellowship we were able to share with their family.

Pastor Itamar Batista, who runs a growing, successful clothing business, whilst studying for his Masters in Business Administration (MBA) helped to organise many meetings for us. He also hosted us at his beautiful house and he, his wife Valdirene and her sister Mara and their brother-in-law Marcos along with the whole family welcomed us with open arms, serving in every possible way.





We are grateful for Pastor Jeremias and his family, from Brasilia. He found time, amidst his responsibility to oversee more than 100 churches all over Brazil, to help with organising and helping us with any issue we had. He also opened his home to us, giving us yet another home away from home experience.

Jaier Batista, a member of the Brazilian army, a rally driver, our personal driver and our friend was such an amazing example to us. He served us wholeheartedly while we were in Brasilia with such devotion and dedication a true example of serving God and not human masters (Colossians 2:23). We will never forget the night he demonstrated his rally driving credentials and the shock we got when turning a corner (at high speed) to be faced by three Policemen on horses. We don't know who was more shocked: the horses, the Policemen or us! We also thank Sandra, his wife, who freely gave him to us during our stay with joy and gladness.



There are many others who helped us, served us, and loved us along the way. We love you and appreciate all that you did to make a time in Brazil a success.

Many people of all ages gave their lives to Jesus and we always rejoice to share this because the glory belongs totally to God. It continues to excite us that the God of the universe would use us to reach people for His glory, not because of who we are, but because of who He is. We serve an awesome God who calls people to Himself and wants us who know Him to make Him known wherever we are, using whatever it is that He has given us to do. To God be all the glory!

