

BRAZIL

Dear Praying Friends,

August 2025 Update

SENDING CHURCH

Teays Valley Baptist Church

3926 Teays Valley Road Hurricane, WV 25526

Pastor Dr. John D. Smith 304.757.9306

MISSION AGENCY

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Gospel Preacher Association

PO Box 520 Oxford, PA 19363

President Dr. Gary Moore 610.806.6555

Brazil Address:

Caixa Postal #2009 Agência Coral Lages, SC - Brazil 88523-971

Stateside Address:

260 NW 100th Avenue Ocala, FL 34482

Phone:

Mark: 352-895-5334 Sheri: 352-895-7107

Email:

markandsheri625@gmail

Website:

markandsheriedwards.com

Individual Bible studies seem to have been the theme this month. I have run to and fro throughout these back mountain roads in order to answer questions from the Scripture and help new believers and unbelievers understand what Christ did for them. We have been all over the Old and New Testament, discussing subjects from reincarnation to prophecy. You would be astounded at the amount of occultism that I have encountered here. Its evil has permeated so many teachings and practices. I have used the mighty Word of God to combat the many false beliefs and occultism that have confused the minds of these people. His Word annihilates every single lie that has been told by the enemy. Each and every Bible study has promoted spiritual growth, and I could not be happier! But I will say this, if ever there has been a time for Gospel Preaching Missionaries to be in the trenches around the world, it is now. There are people out there seeking truth, and we need to be busy bringing it to them because the enemy has not slacked off in his attempts to muddy the waters. Let's stay on mission and keep fighting the good fight for our King!

All of our ministries have thrived this month, but it has taken every ounce of study time, energy, and prayer that I could give. I am currently meeting with each family from our new group in the 3 cities as well as holding combined studies and services with them as a group. Praise the Lord! I also am meeting regularly with our established church in Lages and visiting nearby homes. Sheri has held her ladies Bible study online as she has traveled to take Amelia to begin deputation preparations. This has gone extremely well, and we have seen participation from a few ladies that previously had not shown any interest. Please keep all of these areas in your prayers this month as we seek to advance the Gospel by any and all means possible here.

I was late getting home from a Bible study last week and when I entered the house, I noticed the lights seemed to be very dim. Apparently, a tree had fallen on our electric line out by the barn. I had to cut the rest of the Eucalyptus tree down (great firewood!) and call an electrician. Gabriel and his wife came out and worked until midnight to get our power restored and I was able to plan a visit to his house. Please pray that this tree and electrical problem produce some spiritual fruit as I go visit and share the Gospel with this young family. (And pray for my chainsaw... it has some work to do!

Thank you for helping my family to stay here, working for the Lord in Brazil. We could not minister to all these different people were it not for your faithfulness. Sheri and I read down the list of your names and thank God for each of you. May He bless you and help you along your way as well.

In the Service of the Savior,

Mark Elward

Mark, Sheri, and Amelia Edwards