



# The *Smothers* family

## Church planting in Teresina, Brasil

Joel, Noel, Gabriel, Samuel & Loriel

Dear Prayer Partners,

April 3, 2026

We want to say thank you all for your prayers over this last month as we awaited the arrival of our precious, little girl. There were several answers to prayer to which we thank the Lord for His working and perfect timing. Many have probably seen the announcement on Facebook but we want to officially let everyone know that Loriel Gracelyn Smothers was born on March 19, 2026 at 11:13 am, weighing 8 pounds 2 ounces and measuring 19 1/4 inches long.

One answer to prayer was for Joel's mom to arrive in time. She arrived safely March 5 to two very excited little boys! She was able to get settled in quickly and we were able to do some fun things with her and show her around the city before Lori's birth.

While not anticipated, another answer to prayer was for everyone's health to improve before Lori was born. The second week of March everyone except Noel came down with a three day stomach/congestion virus that has apparently been making its rounds through the city. Two of our doctors had had it as well. Thankfully, Noel did not get it and the rest of us were able to get through it before Lori came.

Another main request was for Lori's arrival itself. We had asked everyone to pray for her to come on her own to avoid Noel being induced because of the medication that she has been on throughout the pregnancy. We praise the Lord that the water broke exactly one hour before our scheduled time to go in and begin the inducement process. The labor was just 5 hours and we are thankful for a healthy baby and Noel's recovery that has gone smoothly.

We were also able to get her birth certificate plus an additional more in depth one needed for documentation stateside. This process was a little complicated with Sam but they changed things since then and it was much easier. We even received the more in depth certificate the same day which was supposed to have taken a week to process. Please pray as we continue to go through several other documentation processes.

Yours for the souls of Brasil,  
Joel, Noel, Gabriel, Samuel and Loriel Smothers

Thank you for your faithful prayers on our behalf. May God bless each of you and the work in your Jerusalems.

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