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“Watching the Light Come On”

There is nothing more exciting than watching a lost soul become aware of their lost state, begin to see the light of the gospel through the fog of false doctrine, and make the decision to trust Christ as their Savior. These past two months we have had the privilege to see two young ladies come to Christ. Glauciene is married to a young man who recently came to Christ. I began working with Ivanildo and Glauciene almost a year ago and it took almost that long for Ivanildo to truly see his need for Christ. He began attending church and bringing his wife. I had spoken to her on a couple of occasions and she just couldn't reach the point of decision. One night after the message I asked her when she was going to make

her decision, I told her that I was praying for her and felt like she was close. She apparently went home that night and teasingly accused Ivanildo of having talked with me about her salvation. He assured her that that was not the case. She trusted Christ that week! Bianca has been attending with her parents for some time, but recently has shown real interest in salvation. One evening I stopped by her parents house to talk with them and ended up leading her to Christ. Nothing could be more encouraging than watching the light of the glorious gospel of Christ come on in the heart of the lost.



“Being Thankful”

Too often we get busy in our activities to stop and be thankful for all of the blessings. This past year, we have seen some growth in our work that we had not seen previously. Some new families, not just individuals who seem to have some desire to really root themselves deeply in the Word of God and be faithful to the house of God. Yes, there is still much growth that needs to take place, spiritually as well as numerically and the needs in the city are great, but God deserves

the highest praise for what He has done. To our great joy, you all have remained faithful in your support and prayers which have allowed us to continue even with the decline in the dollar over this past year. You our supporting churches and friends have allowed us to remain ministering. Thank you for your continued support, love and prayers. We are praying for the Lord to provide more new people and help us win new families so that we have the need to remodel the current

Those Little Dickens!

We've known since we married that our children would be condemned. No, not just in their sins, but condemned to need glasses. Morgan began to show signs of that need a while back, but did not seem so desperate until recently when we began seeing him squint to see the screen at church or the flannelboard in Sunday School. Friday he had his first eye exam and became amazed at the process. He even came home and shared with Cynthia and his siblings about the big binoculars the doctor used to help him see. He is so excited to get glasses, although he thought it was the medicine the nurse used to dilate his eyes that made him ready for glasses. I said, “No, it was in your genes all along.”

*We have a new website!
 Just published to the web.
www.dickensstory.com*

facility that we are renting, rent larger, or buy property and build. All of these decisions would require more finances, but our goal is for the Brazilians to pay for their own church building. The goal is a self-supporting work. Thank you and, please, continue praying.



The Challenge of Missions!

Special Prayer Requests

- SPIRITUAL GROWTH OF NEW CONVERTS
- BAPTISMS
- YOUTH SERVICES AND HOUSE SERVICES
- CONTINUED OPEN DOORS FOR WITNESS

From Her Perspective

Cynthia Dickens

Do you remember Gumby? You know that little green bendable toy? In the hands of children (and some adults), he usually ended up in knots but never lost that smile on his face. I was reminded of flexibility the other day, while listening to Daniella converse with her daddy about our supper plans. It was a church night, not leaving much time for cooking; and we had to fix something simple and quick. Daniella saw supper preparations beginning and immediately thought we were having PB&J - one of her favorites. “Yeah! Peanut butter and jelly! I love peanut butter and jelly!” she proclaimed. Joel quickly informed her that tuna and not PB&J was on the menu. Completely flexible, she cried, “Oh, boy! Tuna sandwiches! Yummy!” Not wanting to disappoint her but having to correct her yet again, Joel said gently, “No, we're having tuna crackers.” Undaunted, Daniella said, “Tuna crackers are good, Daddy!” She skipped off happily to tell her brothers and sister. I had been listening to the exchange and was immediately struck by how easily, cheerfully, and repeatedly Daniella had accepted that her idea was wrong and must be adjusted to match the truth of our supper menu. :) It was convicting to me. How many times do I have a wrong idea about something and, when faced with the truth, cling desperately to my idea, unwilling to bend or move? I need to be flexible and willing to change cheerfully, when the Lord shows me my ideas are wrong. How many people do we meet daily who have their own ideas about God and His Word, yet refuse to allow His truth to change their lives? I think it will bring a smile to my face as I pray for myself and for them to be like Gumby or like our sweet Daniella. :)