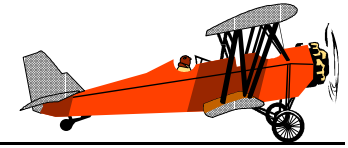


News from the Ends of the Earth

"He will rule from sea to sea and from the river to the ends of the earth!" (Psalm 72:8)



News from the Amazon Rainforest - Winter 2000, Issue #17

Coming Home for the Babe of Christmas

We got off the plane and made our way through customs. Of course, we were juggling baggage and babies in a wild dash to get through customs. And yet, I was in a different world. It hit us when the customs official handed back our passports, "Welcome home!"

Home! Something in my heart swelled. This is the land of the free and the brave. This is the land that gave me life, where I studied, met my wife, began my career.

We love Brazil, but we will always be foreigners. The language doesn't come naturally, certainly not like English. Being outside, off base, sticking out and, at times, feeling just plain awkward wears on a person.

I wonder how Jesus felt on this earth. How difficult it must have been to live in such a hostile environment. What a celebration there must have been when He returned to heaven. **We do it for Him.**



"How does it feel to work in a foreign land where God has called you?"

As perhaps you sensed already it is at times frustrating or difficult. Yet, our Lord came to a foreign land to share the good news of His Father's love. We hope to follow Him. We cannot escape the fact that our ministry is temporary in Brazil, even though we are career missionaries. For example, every four years we spend one year on home ministry in the States.

Jesus, in the limited time of His ministry here on earth, chose to make disciples, preparing them for the continuing work. We too must disciple others because, in the end, we are foreigners and will go home someday. Our ministry *is* temporary in Brazil.

We are confident in the Brazilian leadership with whom we work, because what drives us to go to a foreign land and share the Gospel, is what compels them to reach their own people. Our Master and Lord is Jesus who came to earth on Christmas day to share God's love. He is the Lord of the Brazilian church as well. **They do it for Him.**

Pray with me for our brothers and sisters striving in Brazil to take new territory for God's glory. In the end, it's all for Him who was born in a manger 2000 years ago. Jesus commands us all to go make disciples. **Let's all do it for Him!**

Calendar of Events

September 2000-May 2001: Visit Churches

Dec. 26-Jan 7: Tom travels to Israel

Feb. 5th: Beginning of Semester at Bible College

March-April: Long Trip to South Dakota

Merry Christmas!

The *Overseas Dispatch* is duplicated and mailed by Brookview Wesleyan Church. Please send any address changes or additions to Wesleyan World Missions: PO Box 50434, Indianapolis, IN 46250.

CULTURE QUIZ

What was the Brazilian impression of the USA? Answer True or False.

- 1. The Brazilians, Pr. Edvaldo and Pinho (which means "pine tree") were impressed by the American road and interstate system. T or F**
- 2. While visiting the USA for General Conference the two Brazilians loved fast food. T or F**
- 3. The favorite place to shop for the two Brazilian men was the mall. T or F**
- 4. The Brazilians enjoyed General Conference and the various WWM meetings. T or F**
- 5. Pr. Edvaldo and Pinho felt that the American people were friendly. T or F**

True or False? 1. True, it is "incredible."; 2. False, they got tired of fast food just like we do; 3. False, the mall was OK, but Walmart was the chosen place; 4. True! The meetings were highly significant; 5. True, and that's a great compliment.