

## Living Waters - cont.

Currently we are 9 weeks into our first run through the Living Waters program. Art and I are very challenged from week to week to teach what some have considered a university level course with our basic level of Portuguese. The lesson preparation eats up many hours each week, but as we pass on these biblically based, relational principles and spend time in our small groups praying together we're privileged to see God's Spirit at work, bringing light and hope to some of the dark corners of their lives. Many Brazilians have inherited a legacy of abandonment, abuse, misogyny, poverty, addictions, prostitution, and adultery. This material is designed to deliver them, little by little, out of this inherited bondage so that they can become established in who they are as God's sons and daughters with a new inheritance. We are praying that God would deeply impact their lives and that God would raise up Brazilians to facilitate this course here in Altamira and carry it to other parts of Brazil.



Missionary Cyndi Rae teaching Living Waters

"The secret parts of people's lives have been kept secret for far too long. These dark places have wreaked havoc, causing many men and women in the church to despair and give up hope. That's the reason Living Waters exists—to help bring freedom in those who are addicted, abused and confused (Isaiah 61). Our desire is to see God's people live the full and healthy lives He intended. By relying on the Holy Spirit to renew people, we try to provide a basis for a lifetime process of healing in our gender, sexuality and relationships. This process includes Christian discipleship, which needs to take place in the body of Christ."

Living Waters Canada website: <http://livingwaterscanada.org/> - Cyndi Rae

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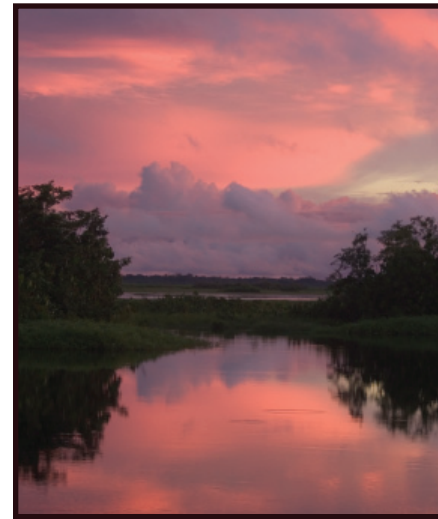
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# Xingu Mission Field Report

Xtreme Mercy  
 Planting Churches and  
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## Dusty & Muddy

(This story is about Terry Price, a missionary from Ohio) For eight months I have been going to the interior, in the Assurini, with Pastor Marcio of the Vineyard Church in Independent II. The church itself is a small, poor church in Altamira. The church building is still under construction because of lack of funds, it is still missing part of the roof, doors, and windows. The pastor is a passionate man who loves Jesus and his congregation. In fact, when a couple from his church moved into a remote area of the Assurini, he started to visit

them at times to make sure they continued to hear the gospel.

When I joined Pastor Marcio, we started to visit the Assurini by motorcycle every other weekend. We have to travel by ferry to get there and it leaves at 6:30 am for the 45 minute trip across the river. On the other side it is a mad dash of disembarking trucks, buses and motorcycles to get to the front of the traffic so as not to travel in a cloud of dust. To get to our destination, we travel over dirt and clay roads with



Pr. Marcio and Missionary Terry Price



Navigating the Rough Terrain



## Dusty & Muddy *cont.*

ruts up to a foot deep. In other places the low spots are sometimes filled with waist-deep muddy water. In some areas the mud is so thick that a motorcycle will stay upright without the kickstand. When it is raining, the road becomes extremely slick, similar to wet ice in winter. The 25 mile trip can take up to 2 hours depending on road conditions.

We arrive at our destination covered in either dust or mud, depending on the weather. Then we begin to visit the houses in the community, inviting families to come to our home group. It takes another 5 hours of traveling over similarly hazardous roads to visit the different homes. It is exciting to see that there now are four families that attend regularly.

About a month ago, Pastor Marcio took his wife to São Paulo to be treated for breast cancer. He asked me to continue to provide



Missionary Terry with Ademir

care for the group. On previous visits, Marcio and I would visit a reclusive, older man named Ademir. He lives off the land, leading a life of isolation from other people. During the prior visits, he often promised he'd visit our home group but he never did. But last weekend there was a break through – he came to the group for the first time and enjoyed it! Being dusty and muddy never felt so good.- *Terry Price*

***Please keep Pr. Marcio's wife, Osmana, in your prayers for a complete healing.***

## Living Waters

*“Those who drink the water that I will give them will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give them will become in them a spring which will provide them with life-giving water and give them eternal life.”*  
John 4:14

Jesus' promise to give us living water is a promise that is not simply conferred on us when we surrender our lives to Jesus. I believe, that like the Samaritan woman, our independence and stubborn wills often lead us to the end of our relational train wrecks before we are ready to seek Jesus to provide what our hearts have thirsted for since our earliest beginnings. Significant relational dissatisfaction and failure readies the heart to learn about God's intentions for our relationships. His desire that our relational



Missionaries Cyndi Rae and Suzanne Simon with some ladies participating in Living Waters

lives be rooted and established in His love hasn't changed. (Eph.3:17)

Although on the surface our lives didn't look as broken as the Samaritan woman's, (Art and I worked hard establishing a 'respectable image' as pastors) with 20 plus years of marriage behind us and a lack of ongoing intimate friendships, we were ready to participate in the Living Water's course in our home church in Cambridge, Ontario six or seven years ago. This course, when taught in its entirety, is 20 weeks long. It's an in-depth course designed to address the many issues that clog up the flow of God's love in our lives. Because there are many things that prevent the flow of God's living waters, we spend week after week learning and praying through the inner sludge that builds up inside us, even as we sleep.

Our relationships were significantly impacted through this course and we were equipped through it to continue growing in our capacity to form life-giving, intimate relationships.

(And we will ever be learning how to nurture loving relationships until we meet Jesus face to face.) I served in this ministry for a couple years before we moved to Brazil almost 3 years ago. I packed my Living Waters manual in my suitcase hoping that some day I would be able to use this material in a Brazilian context. Last spring Dan Thiessen approached Art and I about the need for a Living Waters course in Altamira. I hardly slept the following night as I thought about the possibility of being a part of this exciting new project.

Once we were given the approval of the northern Brazilian Vineyard leaders, Elba and Clenildo in August of last year, Art began the search for a Brazilian translator. The manual is 400 pages so we knew that this was going to be a long-term undertaking. To date we have about 300 pages translated. It is the first edition and needs revision, but overall Art and I have felt comfortable using it with our first group of 10 Brazilians.



Missionary Art Rae with some men participating in Living Waters