

Amazing Growth - cont.

to bring more youth into the church. They are hungry to share what Jesus has done in their lives with others.

One couple I remember as being young teenagers from our first trip to Maraba, just got married, and they have a beautiful little girl. Neither of them has had a good example of how to be a family, but they are learning to do things differently. At one point, I turned in my seat to see that their baby girl, Alice-Vitoria, had fallen asleep in her daddy's arms. He looked down at her with reverence, his wife at his side. Many of these kids do not know what it is like to have a dad in their life, least of all a good dad. This young man loves being a dad. It is obvious by the way he looks at his daughter and his wife. This is the beginning of a new generation, one that will have a new story, one with families that are whole, who love God, and each other. The cycle of brokenness is changing. God is redeeming lives, changing stories and giving a future to our neighbors.



Alice - Vitoria. Future generation of changing the world through Christ

Churches are:

1. God's idea.
2. A way to connect people with God.
3. A way to connect people with each other.
4. A way to transform communities that can last for generations.
5. A good foundation from which people can learn to break cycles of poverty and hopelessness, and where people can be transformed to have dignity, boundaries, and the satisfaction of learning to walk with God on this earth.

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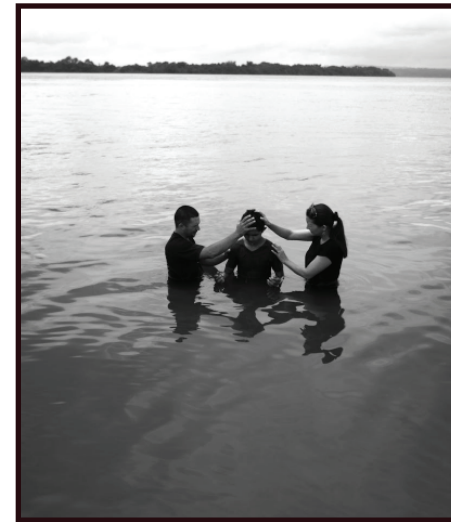
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In August, I (Allison Rupert) will have been in Brazil for 2 years, and I will also be leaving the Altamira Base to start out on a new adventure in Portel. This is another big transition for me, yet I know that God has been very faithful over these past 2 years to prepare me. It is a wonderful feeling to know that God is taking you somewhere, that he is literally carving out a place for you in this world. That's what this journey has been like so far. I feel like my talents are being used daily in a way I haven't experienced before. I feel like I was designed to be a missionary, and my life is actually building into something



Church service on the boat in Portel

Xingu Mission Field Report

Xtreme Mercy
Planting Churches and
Training Leaders



Portel

that could also house others. That is exactly my hope for Portel.

In our December edition of the Xingu Mission Field Report we wrote about the Bouthilliers already starting to build their lives in Portel, and things are moving quickly. They have been holding church service on the boat with at least 3 or 4 families attending. There are also many children participating in the weekly service. It would seem that the ground is fertile, and we have a great opportunity to really impact this small city and its surrounding communities.



Missionary Christie Bouthillier teaching the youth



Portel *cont.*

My piece of the puzzle will be starting an English school there, much like the one I have been teaching at in Altamira. Before I arrived, I didn't have a lot of thoughts concerning the English school, but once I started teaching there, I realized right way the benefits of such a place. Learning English for these communities offers immense opportunities for their future. Those who study English can get a better job or possibly study abroad at a better university.



Future site of church and school

The doors simply open up for them. Another advantage is the school gives us an immediate chance to start building relationships with the community. I personally have made so many friends just from being a teacher. The school is a way to form a bridge between two very different cultures, helping us find common ground.

One of our highest priorities as we move forward in Portel is to build a small building which will be used for both our classroom and

to hold church services in the beginning. Richie and his team have succeeded in laying the foundation for the building. We are currently working on raising financial support of around \$10,000.00 to complete the room. If you would be interested in helping to support this project, you can go to the link below. You can also contact me or Richie via our emails on the back.

http://www.xingu.org/15e1_portel_donation.html

This transition comes with both excitement and fear. I will be leaving behind much of the relational support I have developed here. There are many unknowns. I am certain that I will need a lot of help from others to make this work. But in all, I know that God calls us and challenges us to more, promising to go ahead of us. And when I look in front of me, I can already see Him.



Some of the beautiful souls in Portel

Amazing Growth

Four years ago, my husband Phil and I (Jen Snell) visited the Maraba Base of the Xingu Mission. When Deanna asked if we would share something at their Saturday night service, Phil promptly responded, "Jen would love to speak!" Phil is so good to me!



Some of the youth in the church

That night I was thinking about what I would say when I looked up at the congregation I would be addressing. What I saw took me by surprise. They were all children! They were seated in white plastic patio chairs, most of them with their feet dangling, and whose heads were barely as high as the backs of their chairs. The oldest one there, not counting the church-planting team, was at most, eighteen years old. Fast-forward to today. Phil and I are now raising our family in Marabá. This past week, as I attended the Saturday night service, I was struck at how far these young people have come. Several of them have learned to



Receiving prayers and blessings

play instruments, and they now lead worship. Others take turns at delivering the message. These youth are even learning to organize their own fundraisers to help with their worship team, outreaches, and other Christian activities. Some of these children now bring their parents and other family members to church, and we are hearing about transformations among the adults in our community. A week or so ago, before one of the church services, I overheard a group of these young believers swapping ideas about how



Leaders and future leaders