

## Ministering as a Family

This last month, myself, Christy and the kids made our third trip to Brazil as a family and it is always a special time for me when we travel together. When the children were young we traveled everywhere together and spent many hours crammed together in a vehicle driving around the United States and Canada to preach. You should have seen baby Harrison in his seat as we shared the gospel and met many wonderful people along the way.

When Harrison started kindergarten it changed things for us and how we minister as a family. We still travel quite a bit together and the kid's school allows us to remove them from classes for ministry. They classify us as missionaries and I kind of like that title. However, there are certain trips that I feel the Lord has instructed me to make in which the family cannot come, and I know that God's grace is upon us during these times. I do miss them deeply when I am not with them.

On this trip Harrison finished his second grade school on the last Friday in May and five days later we were on an airplane flying to Lins, Brazil. I call him our little adventurer and Ava is our little explorer. This summer we will be away from our home for almost two whole months with Brazil and Canada on the list of our travels. We have lots of packing and unpacking as the children have special things they like to take with them. They each have a few stuffed animals that they take everywhere we go so Christy made some special passports, equipped with photos of them and a page for entry stamps. Even the hardest custom agent melted as Ava handed him her stuffed animal passport and asked to have it stamped along side of her passport.

It was a one hour flight to Dallas, TX, from Tulsa, and then a ten hour flight to Sao Paulo. Then after we cleared customs there, it was another seven hour drive to this small town with a population of seventy thousand. All in all it is about a twenty four hour tour for us to make it from our house to the church in Lins. I call us "The Taylor's Traveling Salvation Show" when we get to go together.

What a time we have when we are ministering together. We spent three weeks with one church ministering and praying with them. I am blessed to share that there were a multitude of miracles, salvations and other wonderful things that the Lord did. The kids had a wonderful time making friends and learning Portuguese. Ava and Harrison quickly learned to use the words "Picole por favor" which means "Popsicle please." Harrison shared his memory verses with the church while Ava was a little shy. Christy ministered along with me and also shared by beautifully singing some songs for them. They have requested that next time she sings every service and I agreed.

As I watch our children grow up around the gospel and experience the world at such a young age, I am very thankful to the Lord. I have such hope that deep inside of their hearts they are being impressed to believe God and to trust God with their future. Harrison and I spent a few moments in prayer and we took turns thanking the Lord for His many blessings towards us. I was touched at how he gave God such a place in his heart and thanked Him for his friends and family. He thanked God for being so wonderful to him and helping him to experience Brazil. I was really amazed at how he is developing his own relationship with the Lord.

Ava is five and she is our little talker. She loves to talk and even when the people didn't understand English, she still continued to talk to people she was comfortable around. She made some new friends and did a great job of competing with her older brother in almost everything they did. They rescued an owl from a stream and captured a lizard together. One night right when we had them almost asleep Ava saw a little gecko lizard on the ceiling and they spent the next hour studying its every move.

The church in Lins has about one hundred people and we are very blessed to know them. I believe it is one of the places that God has began to interweave our hearts with. My heart has always been to help people to grow, and so I really enjoy when I am able to return to a place on a yearly basis. I am not a great traveling evangelist in the traditional sense, when you show up and do an amazing service for a few days and then leave. I usually need a few services just to connect with the people and then when I leave my heart stays with them and I miss them.

I also am thankful for the many miracles that God does during our services. The healing of sickness and pain were shared as well as the incredible move of God's love on the people which healed so much brokenness in their hearts. Yet, some of the greatest testimonies that I can share is how God helped the people in between our visits. When I heard testimony after testimony from the people of how they believed God for many things during the year since my last visit and of how they took the principles that we taught and saw victory in their homes it really blessed me. Many testimonies of family members saved and marriages salvaged between our visits.

One lady had her brother almost killed in a car wreck. She shared that her other brother who was older and also a doctor declared that there was no hope for him to live and that he would at the most be in a vegetative state. She told me through the translator of how she declared that her younger brother would live and not die and of how he is recovered and whole now. Another woman shared how she watched her twenty four year old son have a stroke and how she stood in faith for full recovery. The doctors also told her it was impossible but there he was perfectly healthy and in every service we had over the three weeks. God truly is faithful and I am so blessed to be His child.

I hope you understand how much we care for you and believe in you. We appreciate you in our life and also trust that God has placed you in our hearts as He has the people in Brazil. Please continue to pray for us as a family as we discover each person that the Lord places us with to minister. I also am praying for God to help you into the places that He has prepared for you. I have had a wonderful time sharing a little from our heart and travels with you.

**ALAN TAYLOR**

P O BOX 700623; TULSA, OK 74170-0623

918-447-8951

[alantaylorministries.org](http://alantaylorministries.org)