



Daniel and Sarah Brito Medeiros

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Location: Brazil



What we do: Working with ReVive, a safe house for girls at risk, Sarah as a dance therapist and Daniel as an advocate for at-risk children.

Dear friends,

We hope you have had a good start to 2024. We celebrated New Year's in England this year with Sarah's family and we were so grateful to be able to be there with the whole family for Sarah's dad's 80th birthday celebration, which was truly blessed.

As we stepped into the new year, we felt we were entering a new season, even a new era. We could see some doors in Brazil were closing and others opening. At the end of last year, we were thinking about looking for another church, as Anglicana Agua Viva was too far from home to really be able to get involved in the life of the church and we felt we needed somewhere that was good for Sophie and Ana's growing faith.

One rainy Sunday we decided to visit a church close to home and there was a call for anyone who wanted to be baptised to go forward. Ana asked us if she could go forward and sign up as she has been wanting to get baptised for some time. She started to do some preparation lessons at the church and we started to attend some of the services.

It was to our great delight that in December 2023 Ana was baptised by the wonderful Pastor Marcus, who has received us so well in the church. He gave Ana such a fatherly hug and swung her around in the water with pure delight as joy radiated from Ana's face. IBAL (Igreja Baptista em Aldeia) is a thriving Baptist church only seven minutes from our house, has a teenagers' ministry and is very mission focused. We have felt the Lord's hand leading us and his favour upon us as doors started to open for us all to get more involved there.

In February Daniel joined a group of 30 men and women on a mission trip to the Amazon. He had lots of stories to tell when he came home. The group travelled 17 hours along the river before stopping at the first community. He was struck by the enormity of the Amazon and the enormity of God. He loved meeting the people who live along the Amazon River and being able to share the gospel with them. He was shocked to find that in these simple communities there were serious issues with drug and alcohol abuse.

One guy, who was addicted to drugs, listened to Daniel's testimony, and asked if he could follow Jesus too, so Daniel had the privilege of leading him to Christ. There are local missionaries who live and work in these



Celebrating Sarah's Dad's 80th birthday with all the family

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**With Jesus
With each other
To the edges**



villages and who disciple the people there. They really need our prayers, as living in the Amazon is not for the faint-hearted!

In Aldeia, IBAL reach out into three poor communities near the church where we live, and we started to visit the projects. One project is a compassion project, and we had an opportunity to teach an English class there which was fun. There is a community called Redentor, where IBAL run a project for families in the area. We were asked to help by leading a small group with the adults every other week

and we are just starting to get to know the people there. It is a great privilege to be able to serve in this way and we are praying about how God would like us to use our gifts and experience to support IBAL's mission work.

The pastors in Olinda continue to meet and seek God's face together. It is wonderful to see the deep friendships that have grown as they support each other. We have also been talking to Pastor Marcus at IBAL about starting a uniting pastors' group in Aldeia as well. We know how powerful it is when pastors get together and humble themselves, repent and pray.

Sarah continues to run weekly devotionals at ReVive. We have had two new girls arrive who are enjoying our times of worship together. The older girls are being so kind to them and helping them settle in. It was good to share the real meaning of Easter with the girls this week and to respond to the Lord with worship for all that he did for us on the cross. The community market, where Daniel serves, had a special Easter market where the families received an Easter gift.

The ladies at Dança Água Viva have become a united group and have become good friends. Sarah wants to push forwards with the vision to train up leaders to start more groups. Sarah is writing a book to share her knowledge and experience in bringing healing and freedom through dance. It is coming together, and the hope is that it will serve as a training manual for people wanting to start groups in their communities and churches. Please pray for Sarah to finish writing the book and translating it so she can start training others so more women can benefit from what the Lord is doing through dance.

Sophie and Ana are working hard at school. Please pray for them as the work gets tougher and for their friendships. Ana's best friend left the school and she does miss her. Sophie plays in the volleyball club and Ana continues to love her ballet. She recently started dancing en pointe which is very exciting!

God bless you as you seek to "know Christ and make him known" wherever you go.

Love Sarah, Daniel, Sophie, and Ana



Photos from top to bottom: Ana's baptism with Pastor Marcus Fenelon; pure joy!; Daniel and Sarah leading the new home group in the community Redentor; Sophie and Ana (year 9 and year 7)



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