

Prayer and Praise Update

January, 2022

Dear Praying Friends,

Greetings again from South America!

As I write this, the Linguistics course is about to start here on the ALEM center. At this point, we have a fairly small class; only 8 students. And of those 8, it appears that only 3 plan to take the entire course. Our facilities are in good shape; the dormitory was remodeled last year, including changes in the wifi layout which facilitate good coverage in all of the rooms. We are ready for the students. Still, it would be good to have more. Please join me in praying that the LORD would call a few more. Also, pray for the students as they face a new challenge in their lives; the course material is new for all of them.

January 1st marked the one-year anniversary of my return to Brazil. 2021 was a productive year, but after giving thanks for that, it is now time to move forward to 2022. This year we do not have the major projects that were waiting when I got back. We still need to get some surge-protection equipment, but for that we are still waiting for the manufacturer to get it ready. Beyond that, at this point things look to be in more of a maintenance mode, although I will still have the usual tasks of supporting users, setting up new computers for translators, etc. So join me in giving thanks for everything that we accomplished last year, and pray that we would be able to keep things running, as well as meet any new challenges.

And on a personal note, God continues to show me areas in my life where I need improvement. One thing that He is reminding me of these days is that I must not give up on growth when I stumble in some area where He is working. I don't know about you, but for me it is easy to get discouraged and just "let it go". So I want to thank the LORD for continuing to work on conforming me to the Image of Christ, and please pray that I would "hang in there" and remember that it takes time to reach any goal in our spiritual journey.

So please give thanks:

- For the new students who are about to begin the ALEM Linguistics course.
- For everything we accomplished last year to improve the center network infrastructure.
- For God's continuing work in my life, to conform me to the Image of Christ.

Please pray:

- That more students would sign up for the Linguistics course—even as it begins.
- That we would be able to keep things running, and meet any new challenges that come up.
- That I would not get discouraged during the process of spiritual growth.

Beginning a new year of supporting Bible translation in Brazil,

Bill Penning

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