

Prayer and Praise Update

November, 2017

Dear Praying Friends,

Greetings again from Brasília!

It's hard to believe that 2017 is nearly over. Only one more month and it will be time to change calendars again. This has been a full year, with plenty of things happening. I wonder what December will bring...

Last week we celebrated Thanksgiving. I was in Anápolis with the SIL Brazil group for the holiday, and we had a good time. After stuffing our bellies, we had a time of sharing and prayer. It was good for us to stop and think of all the things that we really have to be thankful for. Altogether too often, we just bring our shopping lists to God, and forget to thank Him for all the good things that He has done, which we so often take for granted.

Through my trip over to Anápolis, I was reminded of the importance of keeping things in perspective. I had just reached the border between the Federal District and the state of Goiás, when the traffic ground to a halt. About a half a kilometer in front of me, someone had had a wreck. Everyone ended up sitting—under the hot sun!—for an hour and a half. Then when we were allowed to go, after only 4 kilometers, the same thing happened again. This time, we were only stopped for about 20 minutes. When I arrived in Anápolis, I was basically wiped from spending all that time in a hot car or else out under the sun. But as soon as I started to complain, God reminded me that I had plenty to be thankful for. I was not one of the people in either wreck. I was alive and well, and my car was undamaged. When I stopped and thought about that, I realized that the correct response was to be thankful.

We are still working on some unfinished projects at the ALEM center. After struggling with some issues with the phone system, I finally got it working essentially correctly. We are waiting for some parts now that are needed to extend it beyond the office to the dining hall, dormitories and some of the houses.

So please give thanks for:

- The many blessings that God bestows on us—and we often take for granted.
- An opportunity to spend an important American holiday with both Brazilian and American colleagues.
- God's protection on my trip to Anápolis, both there and back.
- The improvements in the ALEM phone system.

Please pray that:

- I would finish the year well, both in my personal life and my work life.
- I would continue to grow in having an "attitude of gratitude" in my life experiences.
- We would be able to finish the next steps in extending the internal phone system around the ALEM center.

Helping Bible translators get the job done in Brazil,

Bill Penning

SIL Brazil / Wycliffe Bible Translators

Address for Correspondence

Bill Penning
C.P. 6101
70741-970 Brasília – DF
BRAZIL

Address for Contributions

Wycliffe Bible Translators
P.O. Box 628200
Orlando, FL 32862-8200

On-Line Donations: <http://www.wycliffe.org/Partnership.aspx?mid=BDADF4>