

Missionaries to Brazil: *The Leamans*

Quarterly Prayer Letter: July, 2016



Solomon, Zavin, Darius
Doug, Titus, Leah
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Dear Prayer Partners:

Praise the Lord with me that we were able to finish the first biblical counseling course for pastors and leaders. There were nine classes in the course and over twenty students. I had the privilege of teaching Introduction to Biblical Counseling, Marriage and Family, and Methods of Biblical Change. There were four experienced psychologists taking the course and one medical doctor. One psychologist said, "After this course in biblical counseling I need to dump all that I learned in the past in the garbage. There is nothing that the world has to offer that can compare with God's Word when it comes to dealing with the soul."

"The course put a huge magnifying glass on the sufficiency of Christ and showed that all our ills derive from the fact that we put other things in the place of Christ."

It is tragic to see how many in the church have no confidence or knowledge about the sufficiency of God's Word. There were many pastors in the class, and the repeated echo was as follows:

1. "We have not been prepared to deal with the problems in the lives of the sheep."
2. "The flock has no notion that God's Word deals with issues in daily life."
3. "The flock does not turn to the pastors to deal with issues of the heart."

We have a lot of ground to recover in the Church of Jesus Christ. This course is a start.



Last module for biblical counseling course

Presbyterian Missionary Union

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Psychologist, teachers, and mothers from the course on biblical counseling

Here is one brief testimony: “This course has been extremely important for my life, family and my ministry. The course put a huge magnifying glass on the sufficiency of Christ and showed that all our ills derive from the fact that we put other things in the place of Christ. Idolatry is the root of our problem.”

I am so thankful for the opportunity to be involved with this in Brazil. The students are experiencing

what I experienced when I took the course in biblical counseling. The Church at large and individual Christians are surprised to learn that the Bible addresses the “inner man” problems. The first impact is on the student’s own life. Many come to the course because they want to learn how to deal with their own issues. The Bible clearly exposes what the problem is, how to get rid of it, and how to replace it with what God wants. The first aspect for growth is to know the problem. This does not discourage the students. It gives them hope! The process of biblical change is liberating and empowering, but it has been hidden behind a century of psychologized labels. We need another reformation that brings the Bible back to the foreground in dealing with the daily issues of life. The power of the gospel saves for eternity and leads to a life that adorns the gospel. The Church needs beautifying. The gospel of Jesus Christ and His Word can make this happen.

Please pray as we continue to teach and preach these truths in a society that is thirsty to hear this truth. Praise God with me for what He is doing!



Rev. Douglas Leaman



Above: Visiting and counseling in Sao Paulo

Bottom: Brazil prepares for the Olympics

“Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all people.” Psa. 96:3

For more information from the Leamans, go to <http://presbyterianmissions.org> or Facebook (Doug Leaman)