



We began the year, 2020,s with all of our evangelistic plans for the children which included “Agita”( Outdoor Evangelism for Kids), small group Bible studies with the children, adolescents and adults as well as our music classes, after school program, English classes, Muay Thai, capoeira, plus our regular activities in each of the community (slum) churches which included worship services and discipleship with the teens. Then all of a sudden our world turned upside down with this pandemic called COVID 19!

During the first two months of this alarming situation, the whole staff started working from home trying to follow the guidelines coming from the state government of Sao Paulo.

It became necessary to restructure all the ministry activities because each activity mentioned above involves a large number of children, teens and adults. We realized that even our church services had to go virtual as well as some of our

small Bible studies. For all of us, we were saddened with all the required changes but God was not caught by surprise and He had plans far better than ours.

As the situation in relations to Covid in Sao Paulo improved, the state began to allow some activities. So we started to make visits to needy families, praying for them, distributing basic food baskets. By God's grace we established partnerships with supermarket companies and individuals who by their contributions made it possible to provide basic food needs to people struggling to provide food for their families.

We have already distributed more than 7.497 basic food baskets hygienic kits. The point is not only to be able to feed those who are in need of food but to take the hope we have in Christ Jesus. The whole team and I have learned how tremendous our God is every day. We are doing things we never planned on doing but God planned to push us out of our comfort zone. It has been an amazing experience!

We have reached 140 new families. We have young people and adults who were involved in drugs and a life of crime who have come closer to us on a weekly basis. Some of them have accepted Christ and stopped using drugs and others who are with us weekly, are trying to break free of addictions. It is a blessing to us to see some of them coming to the church service on Sunday morning .Praise God !

And this is how we are doing ministry today, visiting families, praying, giving personal words of Scripture, beginning some of the workshops like Muay Thai and music. We are resuming some activities but with smaller groups of children and teens. Our church services are happening live with a reduced number of people present as well as continuing to transmit it online.

Brazil is still in chaos just like the rest of the world. But what we are experiencing in the midst of this chaos is fantastic. God is shaping us, challenging us and teaching us to get out of our comfort zone and be a blessing as well as being blessed. God has been convicting hearts, transforming lives and healing wounds. To Him be all the glory! There is much more I will share later.

**[If you want to more about Covid in Brazil click here](#)**

We thank you for your constant prayers. We are all taking care of our health by using gel, masks, and gloves. We are following all the recommendations regarding Covid both in relation to ourselves and the people involved in the activities we are performing.

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**Enjoy with us what God is doing in the life of Alexandra "Piriri", and Adriana one of our staff.**

During one of our activities of giving food boxes, Restoration Ministries while joined with other churches and community groups in our region, met Alexandra, better known as "Piriri". She is a 45-year-old woman, mother of 3 children, grandmother of 3 grandchildren who lives in a slum called Jardim Elba, one of the most dangerous neighborhoods on the outskirts of the Eastern Zone of São Paulo. Alexandra is a very active and well known person in the community.

We visited her to learn a little more about her history and thus maintain a relationship of communion in Christ. We discovered that we had much more in common than we could have imagined.



Alexandra was born in a structured home in an upscale neighborhood of São Paulo, with common problems but with good examples from her parents; but the curiosity of adolescence made her want to know the favela side of the city and the slum lifestyle. This interest happened right after her father's death. The pain of her loss made her distance herself from her family and that was when Alexandra became "Piriri",

a respected drug dealer in the community.

Rarely ever do drug dealers not get involved with their own product, and it was no different with her. In a short time she became addicted. She also gave herself up to alcohol addiction, and this according to her, was her biggest enemy. She suffered a lot as a result of her own choices and recognizes this, but she got tired of living a life of slavery with no prospects. She spent 25 years of her life working in the drug trade, and all that she has, is a cardboard shack next to the sewage river without basic sanitation, which is a terrible way of surviving in precarious conditions.

**One of the most interesting and remarkable things is that despite having so many negative experiences, she has a heart that is grateful to God. She says at all times that she has always felt the hand of God protecting her, freeing her from prison and even death.**

Today she is still not totally free, but she is struggling to stay "clean" and has found victory in Jesus. She said with a big smile, that she has not been drinking alcohol for more than 10 months. Since she abandoned drug dealing, she has managed to maintain a routine with adequate times to sleep and wake up; nothing has been missing in her home, from food to affection, since she now has free time to care for her grandchildren.

Glory to God for all this!

Adrianinha, is one of our missionaries who works with us full time. Her mother is called Neusa (56), addicted to crack, a homeless person, is currently arrested for drug trafficking and curiously, she is a friend of Piriri. We had no idea that this friendship relationship existed, and it was a gift for Adrianinha to hear news about her mother. Piriri told us details of how Neusa always needed care because she was a homeless person, and how she herself was used by God to help Neusa for many years.

Upon learning more about this woman, Adrianinha had the chance to be closer to her mother for a few moments. We can say that all things work together for good, without a doubt!

**Adriana on the left with the children and her mom D. Neusa on the right picture .**



Our prayer request is for Alexandra to remain steadfast, and to fulfill her great dream of being a cook! Hopefully our ministry can give her the necessary support. We also ask for D. Neusa, Adrianinha's mother, that she can have a restored life and that these three women can praise God together.

For Adrianinha, that she will have the opportunity to reconnect with her mom.

**Other prayer requests:**

- Pray for Sr. Cida of the Sapopemba community who has tuberculosis.
- Pray for Bianca, 19 years old and participated in our Bible studies but today is using crack.
- Pray for Fernanda of the Vila Rosa community. We have visited her home. She has been diagnosed with panic syndrome and suffers from depression. Her spouse is a drug dealer.
- Pray for Guilherme. He is a young man that we have invested a lot in. He is very intelligent. His dream was to become an engineer but has become involved in drug trafficking in Vila Rosa community. He began using and now is in prison. May Christ redeem his life.
- Pray for the safety of our team .

- Keep praying for Pr . Josival and his family the situation regarding what I shared in the last letter about they were victim of bank scam still not solved yet. They hired a lawyer to
- Pray for **Restoration Ministries' finances**. We are asking the Lord to help us acquire new financial partners.

**We count on your prayers. Prayers have power and the battle is huge but in Christ there is victory!**

Thank you so much for your prayers and financial generosity making possible to us to keep doing ministry.

***Ireni and Restoration ministries team .***

We thank you for the love you have for our family and ministry, for your prayers, and for fighting with us in the work you have given us.

Thank you very much for your prayers and financial generosity making possible to us to keep doing ministry

**We would also encourage you to send to any friends or family members that would be interesting in getting updates about what the Lord is doing in Brazil through the transformational partnerships of prayer and finances.**

**Please lets us know how we can specifically pray for you**

**YOU CAN BECOME A FINANCIAL PARTNER WITH US BY MAKING A DONATION TO**

- **to Restoration Ministries account 6250-901**
- **to Ireni Mota account 4001-477**



No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. Rom 8:37