



News from Jim and Vicki Sturgill • Missionaries to Brazil, South America

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As you are all too well aware, the economic crisis that the world has been going through has had a disastrous effect on philanthropical giving over all, but it has hit international missionary efforts seemingly more so. Free Will Baptist International Missions has not been exempt from this shortfall in its income that supports the Gospel outreach around the world. As a result, we as missionaries have been asked to contact our friends and support base with an unusual, but critical and necessary request. The Office staff has given us a letter that we are permitted to communicate with you. The body of that letter is included here:

We need your help!

International Missions is in the grip of the worst financial crisis we have experienced in our history. After more than two years of dealing with the impact of a devalued U.S. dollar against other world currencies, we have recently been hit by a major decline in gifts from our supporters. The currency crisis has cost the Mission in excess of \$630,000 in 2008 and 2009. In spite of this, we have been holding our own financially—until August of this year. August-November, giving to the Mission plummeted and we have depleted a large portion of our reserves.

We anticipate a loss in excess of \$500,000 for the 2009 fiscal year!

In response to this, the IM board approved a drastically reduced budget for 2010. Nearly every budget category in the Mission has been cut (this includes my ministry budget). Unfortunately, four positions in the home office have been eliminated. Because most of the Mission's expenses are field-related, we can only cut so much in the home office. Unless the Lord moves on the hearts of our people, IM may be forced to do the unthinkable...

The Mission may have to lay off missionaries if our FWB people do not respond immediately!

The Mission is asking every Free Will Baptist church and individual to give a generous and sacrificial gift as soon as possible. Since I am now a participant in the Global Evangelism Fund (GEF), you can direct your gift to the GEF to help both my fellow laborers and me. Please be sure to send me an email or letter when send your gift, so I can thank you personally.

Will you help keep me, and every other missionary, on the field with a generous gift?

Also, please visit our website (www.fwbgo.com) to view a video from our general director, James Forlines, read additional information, and keep up to date on this financial crisis.

Bother James, our general director, as mentioned above, has also posted a video message that you are invited to prayerfully view regarding this crisis. The address where you can watch this video message is:

<http://fwbgo.com/about/crisis.html>

Vicki and I appreciate your prayers on our behalf about this problem that we are facing.

God bless you,
Jim & Vicki Sturgill