



the Fritz Family

missionaries to Cabo Verde



Dear Praying friends,

March 2023

We appreciate your prayers for us as we continue to adjust to life in the city of Mindelo. It seems that life here continually brings us to our limits. I deeply feel the words of Paul "And who is sufficient for these things?" Very often. I suppose that this is to be part of every Christian's earthly journey - the continual realization that we are not adequate for the task at hand - it is here that we find the all-sufficient grace of our loving God. May He use our weakness for His power and majesty!

Upon our arrival, I assumed the role of pastor in Templo Baptista em Mindelo. This is the work started 16 years ago by Brother Decarvalho. We meet in a sort of storefront that we rent for about \$150 a month. The space is about 700 square feet divided into two rooms and a small bathroom. Most Sundays we have about 15 people- our family is 7 of these. There are a few families that for various reasons have walked away from church here. We are seeking to graciously reach out to these people. Pray with us that the Lord would do a work in their hearts that only He can do.

This role of pastor is new for me in many ways. I do the teaching and preaching on Sunday mornings. For now, Bro. Carlos leads the Wednesday night prayer meetings. We are intentionally "taking it slow" for a few months to have time to assess the needs and to get on the same page as a church. Our aim is steady, sustainable growth motivated by genuine gratitude and love for the Lord.

A few blocks from where we meet as a congregation is a building site where a perimeter wall and foundation has been laid for a future church building. We have chosen to put that work on the "back burner" for a while and focus on a healthy core group of people. Though a permanent building would be a wonderful blessing, we are focused, for the time being, on building a church (people).

I don't wish to complain or disparage the people here, but Mindelo is a difficult place. It is known for its night-life, parties, and carnality. Spiritually speaking, the general attitude towards eternal things seems to be apathy. The temporal sinful pleasures of this life are regularly dressed up and (literally) paraded through the streets. Again, this is something we continually must give to the Lord... We believe that He has led us here. We know that He alone can transform lives. In His goodness, He has brought us down paths that we would have not chosen or expected, but looking back we can see His wisdom in each step... I do not know what the Lord will do here, but we trust Him to accomplish His work in and through us.

He giveth more grace as our burdens grow greater,
He sendeth more strength as our labors increase;
To added afflictions He addeth His mercy,
To multiplied trials He multiplies peace.

When we have exhausted our store of endurance,
When our strength has failed ere the day is half done,
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources
Our Father's full giving is only begun.

Fear not that thy need shall exceed His provision,
Our God ever yearns His resources to share;
Lean hard on the arm everlasting, availing;
The Father both thee and thy load will upbear.

His love has no limits, His grace has no measure,
His power no boundary known unto men;
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus
He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again.

- Annie J. Flint -

P.S. Please note our new field address below.

He is Worthy!
The Nathan Fritz family

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Clockwise from the top:

- The church property border wall and foundation...
- Our house - just joking - this is the governor's palace... they have the red carpet out to welcome someone important.
- Our church family in front of our current meeting place...also a brand new sign.
- Sunset from our rooftop... the distant mountain range is our neighboring island Santo Antão.
- One of our not-so welcome neighbors that we have found hanging out in our laundry area... thankfully not inside the house... sorry for the gross picture.

