

# Update March/April 2014

## Wedding Day for 4 couples sets a new standard for the culture in Bujaru!

In the river town of Bujaru an average of one out of 50 couples might be married. In an area of 25,000 residents, the county clerk estimates 1000 births per year, but only registers 30 marriages each year. Having the lowest per capita income and the highest per capita alcohol consumption for the state of Pará, Bujaru is also known for a lifestyle of immorality and prostitution. The young people grow up in homes with constant conflict, violence, and abuse. There are no morals, no stability and no permanent relationships in the home.



Four beautiful couples!

José and Evanessa

The couples wanted to make their wedding day an unforgettable testimony of God's redemption to friends and family still living in the cycle of destruction. Guests began to arrive from surrounding towns and cities days before the wedding. Ladies from the Castanhal church went to Bujaru early on the wedding day to decorate the church and help to get the brides ready.



John and Ivana and relatives from Marajó Island

them to be church workers. When these 4 couples saw in the Word that God's plan for families is marriage and faithfulness to one life partner, they desired to obey God's standards and not the cultural standards of their past lives. All 4 couples had children, some already teenagers. When God miraculously provided funds for their marriage licenses, they eagerly set the wedding day for April 12.

4 couples from our Bujaru congregation believe that God is calling



Wedding ceremony in Bujaru Church

It was definitely an unforgettable day of joy and beauty like Bujaru had never seen! God is setting a new standard of morality, marriage and raising families to serve the Living Lord Jesus!

#### Youth Camp Theme "Way of Holiness"

While Brazil was celebrating 3 days of debachery during Carnaval, our young people held a youth camp in the beginning of March. 45 youth from our churches in Castanhal and Bujaru came together to seek God's presence and commit themselves to the "The Way of Holiness". The camp was held at the Bujaru church. Worship times were beautiful and the teaching was life changing. 30 hammocks were strung up in the church, others slept on mats on the floor, while still others opted to put their hammock in the less crowded outdoors...in the rain. Next year we are hoping to have our girl's dormitory completed since we are expecting attendance to double in 2015!



Youth camp - "The Way of Holiness"



Jadson - Baptism

### New Believers Baptized in Castanhal!

Besides the wonderful things God is doing in Bujaru, there are many new believers who have come to the Lord this year in Castanhal.

Jadson and Adriana started living together 8 years ago when Jadson was just 17. For Adriana, It had been 8 years of betrayal, conflict and disappointment. Jadson drove a van for a public transportation company to support the family but his life was spiraling downward. As his addiction to drugs, especially cocaine, grew, he was coming home less and less. Much of his pay went to support his drug and alcohol habits. Unable to keep food on the table for their 4 small boys at home, life was more than Adriana could handle.

Jadson, miserable on the inside, struggled desperately in his own strength to change his life. No matter how hard he tried, he could not become the husband and father that he always wanted to be. Then one day, Jadson walked into the Fields of Harvest Church in Castanhal. After the alter call, he came to the front, sobbing and crying out to Jesus to change him. The Lord delivered him instantly, that very night, of his drug and alcohol addiction. Both Jadson and Adriana were baptized in February. God has broken the vicious cycle of drugs, abuse, and unfaithfulness in one more family in Castanhal!

#### Thank you for your support for this ministry!

God is a God of new beginnings. We rejoice in the families that are being transformed by the Word of God. We rejoice in seeing the Kingdom of God established in Bujaru. We rejoice as we reach out to new areas along the river like the community of Conceição. We rejoice as God raises up and provides support for workers for His Harvest Field.

"They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goes forth weeping, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Psalms 126:5-6

Thank you so much for sowing into our lives and the lives of the many Brazilians who are being reached through your giving!

Love,

Scott and Michelle Toth and family

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