

Fw: prayer request

From: EMAIL TEAM (lyelldrake@yahoo.com)

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Date: Monday, February 5, 2024 at 10:10 AM EST

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From: Lindy Drake <lindy_drake@ntm.org>

Sent: Sunday, February 4, 2024 at 04:22:32 PM EST

Subject: prayer request

The Guanano church in Brazil is experiencing some problems. In the town where they meet for church, there are many flavors of evangelical Christian groups, as well as many religious groups who don't preach the Gospel. It has become evident to many that the Drakes and Spors no longer live in town, which they evidently feel leaves the Guanano church vulnerable. The Guanano church has had some guests from town show up and make comments like, "We feel bad that you have just been abandoned by those American missionaries. How can they expect you to continue to exist as a church when they don't even pay salaries to your pastors?" or "You are such a weak group. You need to pray, pray, pray and seek the power of the Holy Spirit." There are two church leaders, Moise and Helmar. They are feeling the heat. They are currently meeting in Moise's house when they gather for their church services. (**Photo: Moise teaching.** Notice how color coordination is not a cultural value 😊) Moise is beginning to think "Maybe if we had our own church building we would get a little respect. Maybe our Bible lessons aren't good because those who helped the missionaries prepare them weren't always walking with the Lord."



Helmar, on the other hand, is standing firm. He has encouraged Moise that they don't lack any power to do God's work. The Spirit of God took over in their lives as soon as they received Christ as Savior, and he is ever-present to guide, empower, teach and lead. They just need to be sensitive to his guidance and follow in his steps. We are grateful that Barry and Denise are currently in Brazil. They were involved in workshops training Brazilian tribal missionaries how to make their teaching more effective to people with an animistic worldview. They

are currently in São Gabriel to encourage the whole group of believers, but especially to strengthen and encourage Moise and Helmar to face the opposition and faithfully teach and lead God's people. Barry is sharing that they don't need to

build a physical church building to get some respect from the other believers in town. They need to be the church, the body of Christ, and to demonstrate by their love for Jesus and for each other that their spiritual life and ministry is real and effective. Will you pray for Barry and Denise and their encouragement to the Guanano church leaders in these days?



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