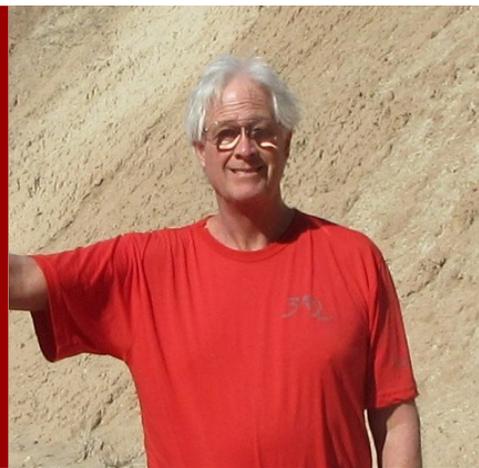


# Bits from Bill

Using Information Technology to Help Bring the Word of God  
to the Indigenous Peoples of Brazil

September, 2020



## *An Excellent Vacation*

Yes, even people like me need vacations. Otherwise, our brains turn to mush and leak out through our ears. So on July 7<sup>th</sup>, I took off from the hot Tucson desert and headed for the cool mountains, where I spent the next six weeks living in campgrounds and communing with the bears. Since I am now over 62, I was able to get a fifty-percent discount on camping fees, which cut costs even further (tent camping is actually cheaper than living at home!).

My ultimate goal was Grand Teton National Park. This year, the Park was very busy; it seemed like everyone and their wiener dog wanted to go there. Fortunately, I was able to get a campsite—on my second try—and spent four days enjoying God’s handiwork up in the northwestern corner of Wyoming.

Being out in nature is refreshing. It reminds me that there is Someone bigger than all the problems taking place in our country and around the world. It reminds me that the LORD created us for a purpose—and from His Word, we know that purpose is to know Him, the One True God, and Jesus Christ, Whom He sent.

Maybe camping in the mountains isn’t your thing. Maybe your thing is the beach. Or desert landscapes. Or just gazing up at the stars and seeing the vast heavens stretching out to infinity. But whatever your thing is, I highly recommend that you do it. Take some time to get away from the works of man and gaze upon the works of God. It will give you a different perspective.

## *Returning to Brazil*

Now that my vacation is over, my focus has shifted to getting ready to return to Brazil. I am still hoping to be able to go back at the end of this year. By the grace of God, I now have all the financial support that I need, so that hurdle has been passed.

In addition, God is also providing a new computer, through a local church which has joined my ministry team. This will be a great blessing! My old computer has served long and well, but after nine years is definitely showing its age.

There are still other hoops to jump through. Please be praying that I would be able to meet all other additional requirements, and return to Brazil on schedule.

## *Major Project in January*

Brasília has been called the “lightning capital of the world”. I don’t know if that is true or not, but the region does get a lot of it. And while I enjoy watching thunderstorms and give thanks for the rain, there is also a negative side: Lightning damages electronics.

In 2018, we were able to set up a very good center-wide network at the ALEM center. All of the buildings had wi-fi access. We even got improved service from our Internet providers. Everyone was happy. Then, in early 2019, a series of storms destroyed nearly half of our access points. The lightning was so intense that even using grounded protectors did not help.

The answer is fiber optic. Since fiber optic transmits data using light, it does not conduct electricity. The problem for us has been lack of resources. Earlier this year, a closer examination of the financial situation revealed resources that ALEM had not previously been aware of—and a good portion of it was available for the computer department.

The cost of fiber optic has come way down. As a result, the center administrator has put together a project to replace the current network wiring with fiber optic. Since ALEM will be delaying the start of the annual Linguistics course until April, they have decided to begin this project in January. Therefore, they really want me to return by then.

This is yet another reason to pray that I would be able to complete all of the additional requirements and return to Brazil at the end of the year, as originally planned.



*Grand Teton National Park*

## Praise

- For an excellent vacation time and opportunity to get out of the city and enjoy God's handiwork!
- For getting my financial support up to the level necessary to return to Brazil.
- For the new computer being provided by a local supporting church.
- For the resources enabling ALEM to install fiber optic cabling around the center.

## Prayer

- That I would be able to complete all of the necessary requirements in order to return to Brazil.
- That I would finish my time in Tucson well, and be able to reconnect with everyone that I need to before I leave.
- That the fiber-optic project at ALEM would take place and would resolve the lightning issue.

May the LORD give us all a true perspective about what is really important in life,

Bill

*For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.*

**Romans 1:20a**

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