

# *Prayer and Praise Update*

May, 2026

Dear Praying Friends,

Greetings again from Brazil!

At the end of this month, I will be going over to Anápolis for the SIL Conference, which is why I am sending this Update out a few days earlier than I normally do. Since I live and work with our national partners at ALEM, I actually have very little direct contact with my SIL colleagues. This will be an opportunity to reconnect with them and hear about the work that they are doing here in Brazil.

On Saturday, the 30<sup>th</sup>, SIL will celebrate 70 years of activity in Brazil. (Yes, SIL Brazil is older than I am!) To help celebrate, members of other partner organizations, including ALEM, will be present. Thinking about this milestone reminds me that Bible translation is not a get-it-done-quick job. To properly do a translation takes years, even decades. The Lord set it up this way because not only do translators do the technical part of translating Scripture, but they also build relationships with the people, relationships which are a living witness of the message that they bring.

On a more local note, we have a young couple who recently arrived here at ALEM. The husband is a computer guy, like me. Right now, we don't know how long they will stay. But if they stay for a few years, Joel will hopefully be able to take over for me when I retire. So here is another potential "replacement Bill". So give thanks for this possible replacement person, and do keep praying, that the Lord would clearly show us His plan.

So please give thanks:

- For seventy years of Bible translation by SIL in Brazil.
- For a possible replacement for me when I retire.

Please pray:

- For safe travels to and from SIL Conference, and a blessed time there.
- That God would make His will clear regarding the possible replacement computer tech.

Celebrating 70 years of Bible translation by SIL in Brazil,

Bill Penning

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