

Rachevskys in Portugal



Helping Missionaries by Teaching their Children

May 2011

Often in life, we work hard with very little visible results or change. A pastor, who preaches week to week. A mother, who disciplines and trains again and again. A musician who practices over and over. A missionary who prays and labors for years, with very few results. Last month I got to see visible results. I left my ministry in England six years ago. Last month, I was able to return with Nick, Noah and Isaac. To God's glory and because of His grace, the little church plant is flourishing and is not so little anymore! Often in day to day life, nothing seems to change. We see the many struggles and few victories. I was so encouraged to see so many faces I did not know. The new believers I left have grown and are now involved in ministries themselves. The kids I left are now teenagers! The church now has a national pastor. God is still at work in England, in Portugal, in North America, in our children's lives. We just sometimes don't see it. 1 Corinthians 15:58 says, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

It was a joy to be reacquainted with so many friends and colleagues. I can't say it was a relaxing spring break, but it was memorable and fun. We are thankful for the hospitality of friends and the encouragement they were to us. After break, Nick returned to school to finish the last weeks of school. We would appreciate prayer for Nick to finish strong and have wisdom to know how to best help the

students who are struggling. Please also pray for us as we figure out how we can best be used this summer during the break from school. We are both seriously considering taking more formal language training. We are also excited about co-hosting a missions team from Canada as well as other summer ministries we can be involved in.

Our son Noah turned three on April 28th. He loves to learn and recently prayed before bed thanking God for "preaching school." He actually meant "preschool" that Mommy is working on with him, although that did give me a few ideas! Maybe Grandpa Manago can give him lessons on Skype! I am starting to teach him his letters and asked him what letter "M" was. He looked at me and said, "Mommy, it's an 'M' like in Bick Donalds!" We obviously have a bit more work to do.

Isaac is growing rapidly! He is now five months old. It is fun to see him light up when he sees Mommy, Daddy or Noah. He loves Noah and watches him quite intently. We are hoping he is not learning everything from Noah just yet. One of Mommy's favorite things is pretending to "eat" Isaac. Noah still gets quite upset and says, "Mommy, you can't eat him, there would be no more Isaac!"

Thank you for upholding our family in prayer. It is a joy to serve in Portugal, but we would not be able to do it without your prayers and support. Thank you!

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