

BRAZIL

LOCATION: ANORI, BRASILIA, RIO, IGUASSU & AMAZON RIVER

TEAM SIZE: 12 STUDENTS

TEAM LEADER: 1 STAFF

DATE: MAY 10 - 27, 2008



Getting attacked by a Macaw...losing more than half your teams luggage...floating down the Amazon River...anticipating the arrival of your travel visa just hours before you are scheduled to leave....seeing the Lord shine through someone like you have never seen before... Those are just a few of the experiences that 12 Sterling College students, along with their team leader, will remember of their trip to Brazil May 10- 27, 2008.



For the first week of the trip, the team traveled on a medical mission boat down the Amazon River to the village of Anori. While there, some of the team members assisted medical doctors and dentists, giving care to over 250 patients and performing over 65 procedures on the villagers. The rest of the team was able to put on a Vacation Bible School for the local children. The second part of the trip included traveling to Brasilia, Brazil, where they visited Missão Vida (Life Mission), a ministry focused on rehabilitating homeless men. Students were able to interact with men who had turned their lives of poverty and homelessness around. For the final leg of the trip the team went to Iguassu, Brazil and visited the Association of Christian Children with Handicaps and Disabilities (ACDD) center where they played and sang with the children.

Whether floating down the Amazon or on top of a motel roof, the team spent their time focused on praise and worship.

“There was one night in Brasilia where every song we sang and the devotion that was shared was so unbelievable. The vulnerability and transparency that everyone showed was uncommon and something very special,” David Earle, team leader, said.

“We had a purpose on this trip. The 13 people that got on the plane in Wichita were not the same 13 that got off. It was the experience of a lifetime,” Junior Hillary Stucky said.

The Brazil team was comprised of Tessa Blackwell, Valley Center, Kan., Noah Breeden, San Antonio, Tex., Nolan Cox, Weskan, Kan., Ashley Earle, Sterling, Kan., David Earle, team leader, Sterling, Kan., Grace Friedman, Arvada, Colo., Shekinah Heinritz, Oden, Ark., Kelli LaRosh, Osborne, Kan., Kysha Nichols, Winona, Kan., Hillary Stucky, Haven, Kan., Michelle Sumption, Vinton, Iowa., Amberli Todd, Sterling, Kan., Sarah Wolff, Kit Carson, Colo.



Fundraising for the trip included writing support letters, assisting area farmers, selling pizzas, and raking and clearing yards. The team got together almost every week for logistics meetings and held bonfires to help them develop unity.

