

Prayer This Week

Our focus this week is: **Our Congregation**

A. I praise God this morning for His work in our congregation:

- 1. People: _____.
- 2. Ministries: _____.
- 3. Answered Prayers: _____.

B. I draw near to God this morning, asking for His power and will at FBC:

- 1. for: _____.
- 2. for: _____.
- 3. for: _____.

C. The Cry of my heart this morning for our congregation is:

_____.

D. Praying for one another:

Healing & Strength: Pat Robson, Constance McEwan, Evelyn Watt, Mary Richmond, Dan Meyer, Bernie Smith, Rachel Dunkerley-Underwood, Pastor John Teibe, Wayne & Margaret Marsh

Bereavement: Please pray for the family of Allan Holoboff, who passed away on March 3, 2017.

For confidential or urgent prayer requests, call Erna (prayer chain) at 403-284-3737

Nation we are in prayer for this week

Brazil – Latin America



Area: 8,511,965

sq km

One-half of the
land surface and

population of South America. The world's fifth largest country in
both area and population.

Religion

[Christians](#)

[Evangelicals](#)

Pop %

Ann Gr

178,616,852

91.40

1.1

51,334,091

26.30

1.7

Population: 195,423,252 Annual Growth: 0.99% Capital: Brasilia

Challenges for Prayer

a) **The charismatic movement** grows in strength, numbers and maturity; over 15 million are a part of this.

b) **The successes of evangelical denominations** have stimulated a more people-friendly, contemporary worship and ministry and a greater growth of evangelical Catholics, as well as an increase in traditional mass attendance.

The emergence of evangelicals in Brazil has been dramatic. Yet despite the growth – from 2.9% in 1960 to 26.3% in 2010 – there are many prayer needs:

a) **Numerical rather than spiritual growth is the emphasis** of too many groups, to the point of dishonest inflation of numbers and disregard for discipleship. As a result, churches have “multiplied”, but congregations are filled with immature, unfed spiritual infants whose faith is overly based on emotionalism, petty legalism and the personality of leaders. Such zeal without maturity leads to spiritual error, nominalism, widespread church-hopping without commitment to a particular church and large-scale backsliding.

b) **Prosperity theology** has shaped much of Pentecostalism in Brazil, with those on top of the pyramid enjoying celebrity status and lifestyles – as well as financial scandals – while millions of poor hold out for a miracle of healing or financial blessing. Pray for a right balance between expectation of blessing and daily sanctification.

c) **Leadership models are sorely lacking**, as witnessed by the scandals and moral failures of some high-profile leaders characterized more by their wealth, power and lack of accountability than their humility and faithfulness. The celebrity bishop model is unsustainable, and there needs to be new ways of shaping and growing leaders who will be well suited for bringing discipleship and societal impact to Brazil's evangelicals.

d) **Unity.** Evangelical denominations have mushroomed in the last 20 years as new groups form with almost every theological disagreement or inter-personal conflict. There could be over 4,000 distinct evangelical groups. The success mentality based on numbers and income can induce rivalry and jealousy. Pray for the Evangelical Association of Brazil to be a means of fostering lasting unity, fellowship and prayerful cooperation.