PLEASE PRAY FOR

JOEL & NOEL SMOTHERS missionaries to BELO JARDIM, BRAZIL

Dear Prayer Partners,

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**Psalm 127:3** Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. We are excited to announce the birth of our son, Gabriel Silas Smothers! He was born on September 8, 2018, at 1:11pm weighing 9 pounds 6 ounces and measuring 20 ¼ inches long. Gabriel means "God is my strength" and in the Bible represents the first messenger of hope to this world. He is the first one in the NT to tell Mary that she would give birth to Jesus who would save his people from their sins. Silas means "of the forest or woods". He was Paul's faithful companion and a godly leader in the early church. He was with Paul in the Philippian jail, singing praises to God at midnight. Our little "Gabe" is going to be a missionary to Brazil and grow up as his father's companion, sharing Christ with the lost. We also want to dedicate his middle name as an honor to our pastor, Paul Woody.

There were some complications as he presented himself in a position called mentum posterior, which simply means that his chin came first. As a result, it created a lot more pressure and pain for Noel. She is slowly recovering and would appreciate your prayers as she waits to be able to do normal activities. We found out shortly after birth that Gabe had a class 4 lip tie and a class 3 tongue tie. On Thursday, we were able to take him to a dentist to have those laser removed. Please pray for him as we do his exercises each day to prevent the skin from growing back. We are thankful for a healthy son and pray that he will grow up to love and serve the Lord.

Yours for the souls of Brazil, Joel, Noel, and Gabriel Smothers.

