

Tatá's Story

Act justly, love tenderly,
walk humbly with your God

Brazil is the largest country in South America and the fifth largest country in the world!



Nearly **40 million people** in **Brazil** live in **poverty**.

Many of them **struggle** to **survive** in the **countryside** so make **their way** to the **cities**. Here they often end up **living** on the **streets** or in **shanty towns**.

This is an old hotel in **São Paulo** now housing homeless families.

The families pay about £4 a month to help keep the building in a **good condition**.

This community is supported by **CAFOD**.



Meet Tatá

She has been **living** in the building for several **years**. She lives with her **mother**, her two brothers, her six **cousins** and her three **aunts**.

They all **share** two rooms and a kitchen.




Tatá likes living in this block.

Here are some of the children who live in the same building as Tatá.

It's better than
living on the streets.






I missed lots of lessons, I had to go to the market with my father really early in the morning. He bought things in the market to sell on the streets and I went with him so I missed school. When I did go I was so tired, I fell asleep.

Tatá's father died about a year ago. At school, Tatá is repeating her first year.

Each floor has **representatives** who go to **monthly assemblies** and help take **decisions** about the **running of the building**.



A photograph of two young girls, Tatá and Ninha, sitting on a bicycle in a hallway with graffiti on the walls. Tatá is in the foreground, wearing a black and white striped shirt, and Ninha is behind her, wearing a pink shirt. They are both smiling. A yellow-bordered text box is overlaid on the right side of the image.

We have a little
notebook and we
write down
everything we
see to bring to the
meetings.

Tatá and her friend Ninha are children's coordinators in the building.

They talk about how to treat their building with respect, how to look after and clean it and how to organise their games and toys.

After the families had lived in the building for two years, a party was organised to celebrate.



Tatá enjoyed **celebrating** with many of the **communities'** 320 children.



This is what the Lord asks,
'**Act justly**, **love tenderly**
and **walk humbly** with God.'



How do you think
Tatá is **living out**
this message?

How can **you**
live out this
message?

What **do you**
think are the
challenges for
Tatá?

What challenges
do **you** face?

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Picture credits: Anderson Barbaso, Sarah Smith-Pearse, Tony Sheen