

# GIBSON NEWS

Church | Challenges | Prayers Answered

## Praise:

-New Teammates arrival

-New church visitors

## Prayer Request:

-For a bigger church building

-For new relationships in the community

-For the girls in school



*Church retreat at Creation park outside of Lisbon, celebration and baptismal service*

## God is so Good!

It seems like it is the reoccurring theme. Summer has flown by! But what a wonderful summer we have had. We have been praying for you as well over the summer and especially recently for our family, friends and churches in Florida.

I have had the privilege of preaching in a few different churches in Portugal due to pastors being on vacation. One Sunday I filled in for Pastor Tiago Capote at the Baptist church of Arruda dos Vinhos. This was where we lived when we first moved to Portugal in 2015. We love this group of believers and were so excited to see them again since we left in 2018 to plant the church in our town. It was a wonderful Sunday of worshipping with other believers.

We are happy to report that the church has continued to grow! It is amazing how God continues to bring people to us. We are continually humbled and excited by the fact that God is growing His church here in Portugal. Over the summer we had three families join our Portuguese service!!! In the International service we have had people come and go but praise God we have a great core group of believers. We had an older gentleman who started visiting us in June and was very faithful. He was a very interesting man who is Portuguese borne in Mozambique then lived in South Africa for many years before coming to



*Lego store opened in Lisbon and they made a mural out of legos*

Portugal. He has had a hard life, one I cannot even understand, but there was something strange with some of the things he would say to me. One Sunday he said, pastor, I would like to talk to you this week. So we planned on meeting but could not because he became sick. So we talked over the phone then texted quite a bit. He expressed to me that he needed to leave the church because he was very worried about how we are not pleasing to God as a local church and that we were headed for big trouble. This of course got my attention. Then he said WORD FOR WORD to me in the last text he sent, "I thought that in Portugal we should open a church like: Whites For Christ Only." I was floored. I could not believe what I had just read. I spoke with him over the phone how he was wrong and needed to change his way of thinking, yet he was committed to leaving. While it hurt that he left I definitely did not want this type of thinking to influence anyone else in the church. What a sad thing it is to see how satan shows up in the church in so many different ways, continually wanting to divide the church and disrupt the unity that we have in Christ.

### *New Teammates:*

For many years we have been praying for new teammates in Portugal since so many have left and others are getting close to retirement. In the past year we have welcomed three new families to Portugal and this past summer we welcomed the third family! It has been exciting, and tiring, getting them settled in. There was so much looking at houses, contacting realtors (which in Portugal act like you are wasting their time), looking at cars, getting documents together, getting simple things like phones, internet, water, electricity and so on. Yet that is part of moving! We are so excited to have them here and get them plugged into a local church and language school.

## *New School Year:*

Melissa has been working hard with the girls and their homeschooling. We did not completely stop through the summer, even though they were not having class every day. They have been part of a Classical Conversations homeschool group who meets every Thursday and it has been a huge blessing to be part of this group and has been great for all the kids. So far, Portugal is one of the only countries in Europe that it is still legal to homeschool, pray that it stays that way as there are several families here in our churches that homeschool as well.

Along with the new school year we are starting a new Bible study. Melissa has been part of a woman's Bible study every Tuesday and one-on-one study on Wednesdays. On Thursday nights we are starting a new Bible study through the book of James, and I do one-on-one discipleship throughout the week as well.

It is great to see how people are excited about getting together and learning more. We are praying that God would raise up men from this group to be future pastors.

## *Thank You!*

We are so so thankful for you, your prayers and support. Our goal is to make sure not to overload your email with updates. But, if there is ever a time you would like to get a quick update then please write to us via email or Facebook messenger @ Adamnmel Gibson or Melissa Gibson. We would love to hear from you. We pray for you and are so thankful for you.