

BE ONE TOGETHER

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We can look back, raise our hands and voices and say: The Lord has done great things for us and that is why we rejoice. Psalms 126.3

The Christmas carol was a time to celebrate and the greatest joy ever. We were also challenged by the announcement of the angels to the pastors, when they declared that the Gospel would be for the people.

This way, we are happy that the ones who have been coming to us already unite weekly with us during our time of worship. João, Ricardo, and others have been coming to the church as a fruit of the love of God for them and for us who pray and work hard to see in Cartaxo a church which fulfills God's calling.



We rejoice for Mariana. She is a 19-year-old girl who has been participating in the mini camps. We have tried to become closer to her, like a sort of informal discipleship. Mariana also has participated in our services, which does not happen very commonly in this European context. Our request is for her to believe in Christ, so that He may save her.



We rejoice for the small miracles that God is operating in the hearts of the unbelievers. Ms. Julieta has been a target of the love of God. To us, progress looks slow, however when we look back, we become surprised with how prayer, the Gospel and Christian love made an impact on this woman's life. Ms. Julieta's heart is like a rock, but the Word is the Living Water which erodes and breaks it, until the work is complete.

We have joy in our bold and fearless vision and for the progress in the Luso Cristã church planting ministry. Now, choosing and starting a daily service for the community has been our main challenge and it is gathering all of our team's efforts for the next year. To see a strong and influential church in the society and amid the Portuguese church communities is a goal in the heart of Luso Cristã.

Another motive for celebration has been the ministry developed with teenagers. From my experience, I believe that the investment made in this age span is one of the most fruitful. Luso Cristã also believes that it is vital that you reach the younger before they enter universities, where they find a highly agnostic environment. I am very grateful to God for my colleagues that believe and invest greatly in the mini-camp ministry and because my younger sons and some of their

friends are being benefited from this work.

We rejoice because God has opened my eyes in new ways to give my testimony to the Portuguese, going where the people are, being a “artisanal jam maker”. Every Saturday I go to the Cartaxo Marketplace to show my hand-made goods and in the end of this year, we were also able to deliver plenty and good Christian literature.



The Be One Together mission has a Missionary Conference in Dallas, which will occur from 03/31 to 4/2. I would like to go and make use of this opportunity to enrich my ministry and have closer contact with the leadership. In God I trust that he may guide me to make the best decision, so I ask him for wisdom, and to my brothers that you pray for me.

Not always do we have reasons for laughter or parties, but we can always find comfort in the Gospel; *The joy of the Lord is our strength.*

Grace & Peace

Isabel Fernandes

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PO Box 112 • Hiram, GA 30141

Phone: 770.489.6834

