



“The night is coming, when no one can work”. — John 9:4

While teaching my students about the true meaning of Easter, we remembered God’s call to Moses to free the people from Egypt.

That night, each household offered a lamb, the people of God crossed the Red Sea, and the “Passing over” was celebrated.

But this was only the beginning of something immensely greater: God heard our cry and sent His own Son to set us free. We know it is not easy to convey these spiritual truths today, amidst distractions and laughter, but something changed when the students realized that our present-day “Pharaoh” is often our own self.

I saw in many eyes the recognition that Easter is an offer of life: the people gave the lamb, God gave the Son, and the Son gave Himself. Yesterday, the miracle was the crossing of the sea; today, our miracle is seeing these students cross the inner gates that hold them captive.

The Lord is the one who convicts, but we are called to intercede for each of them.



There is a cry within me that drives me to speak of God’s goodness.

But I ask myself sometimes: how can I do this if people seem unwilling to listen?

Men and women are suffering, they are directionless, debilitated in health, disappointed with family, and hopeless in institutions.

Yet many still close their eyes and cover their ears.



That is what happened recently with Mr. Manuel, an elderly man.

In Portugal, we know we need to go slowly, build trust, but I feel that sometimes time is of the essence and we need to seize opportunities before night comes.

On the other hand, Mrs. Belmira already stops and chats with me at my market stall.

We’ve known each other for over a year, and she is beginning to feel at ease to interact. Faith is a gift from God, and so I ask Him to work saving faith in her.

I ask Him to give me wisdom and spiritual sensitivity, and I ask you, my brothers, for readiness to hold with me this “invisible rope,” which is stronger than iron chains.

I need your prayers, for God’s power is perfected in my weakness.

Santo Antão do Tojal



In Santo Antão do Tojal (near Lisbon), we also have a team that is enthusiastic and committed to Jesus; call to make disciples. The team has been meeting weekly for prayer and strategic planning. This has been a time of studying the terrain, in order to implement the best strategy for planting a strong, impactful church in the country.

We need the Lord to reveal to us a point of contact with the population of the region.



If you feel challenged to participate in this ministry through prayer and financial support, please contact my church, Filadélfia Regular Baptist Church, or my mission agency, Be One Together.



I have served in Portugal for 38 years. Throughout all this time, I have never had full financial support, but God has always sent what was needed through the faithfulness of brothers like you. In this past year, I suffered a reduction in support and, as you know, the cost of living in Europe has gone up considerably. This difficulty is felt more keenly due to the many trips between Cartaxo and Santo Antão do Tojal, two locations where I have been investing.



Prayer requests:

For the salvation of Mr. Manuel, that the Lord would prepare his heart to hear the message of the Gospel.

For the salvation of Mrs. Belmira, that saving faith would flourish in her heart.

For God's guidance in planting the church in Santo Antão do Tojal, especially for a point of contact with the local population.

For wisdom, health, and provision to continue serving faithfully between Cartaxo and Santo Antão do Tojal.

BE ONE TOGETHER

Grateful for your partnership,
Isabel Fernandes