"Rooted and built up in Him [Jesus], and stablished in the

Seth & Susana Lunday

Latin America's Largest Country

BRAZII

April – June Newsletter 2022

faith..."- Colossians 2:7

Someone once told me that "it takes time to cut a diamond", which means there are seasons when we must experience certain growth to see the necessary fruit God wants to produce in us; and growth takes *time*. Well, it takes some God given patience for these

times. Six months have passed since we began administering

2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Missionaries to

the Nova Vida ministry here in Sao Paulo. We cannot say that it has been "smooth sailing". But oh, how much growth and experience we have been receiving.

### **Growing through Pain:**

During the Christian life, there are some "growing pains" that the Lord wants to lead us through. As some of you may already know, we found out that we were pregnant on Easter. However, we lost the baby about a week later. The circumstances were heartbreaking, but God's promises are sweet. The pain of our lost was unlike anything we ever went through but nevertheless, it was not a true lost. How it was

precious this gift God allowed us to keep for such a time. On the day we said our last goodbyes, we witnessed a glorious sunset. It seemed as if we were at the gates of eternity, being assured that as our child left the womb. he or she is safe and alive with the Lord. We long for the day when we will see our baby once again in eternity.

## Growing through Relationships

One of the great joys of ministry is guiding others in their growth for the Lord. "Grow in grace and in the knowledge" has been evident through our discipleship program. These are some of stories of how God is changing lives and adding on to His Family here in Brazil:

> Villiam - young man who was reached through our soccer ministry on Monday nights. He is studying for a business degree. On his way to see a physical therapist, Uilliam passed in front of the soccer field where our guys



were playing. He was invited to join the game and never stopped attending. Soon, he was attending our services but full of questions. On a Saturday morning, Seth had the privilege of leading him to the Lord while they discussed John 3.

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Rodrigo – a single dad, recently divorced, was challenged by a friend to see out a church. He found our church online and called in on a Sunday afternoon. Seth spoke to him over the phone and gave him the info. He showed up that night, sensitive to the Holy Spirit, and was led towards salvation in Christ by some of our men. He has already begun discipleship lessons. So many questions about this new life - so refreshing to see!



Lucincide – a single mom with two kids. While trying to distance herself from her ex-husband and restarting her life, she stumbled upon our church one Sunday. She immediately took a liking to Susana and the church ladies. After assuring her salvation, Susana has guided in her spiritual growth through the Bible lessons. It is so precious to see how she is growing in love with Christ. She has been actively reaching others

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as well.

Yuri and Isabel – a young couple who had walked into our ministry while searching for sound doctrine. They were desirous of strong biblical truth and were hungry for spiritual growth.

Praise the Lord, they have been growing

effectively in the knowledge of Truth. A couple who is proving to be wonderful servants in the ministry as they grow stronger in Christ.

God is still in the growing business! What a privilege we get to be a part of it.

### **Couples** retreat

> We were able to have our first couples retreat this year. It was truly edifying. Missionaries John and Beverly Leonard ministered to the couples. Our prayer is to see more couples strengthened and growing in the love of Christ.







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## Growing the Next Generation

## **Kids ministry**

Our children's ministry has been going full steam this year. We cannot say it has been without its challenges (what ministry doesn't) – some troublemakers, gang wars on the route, and mechanical problems (drunk driver hit our bus) – yet the fruit that remains is priceless. Kids are being led to salvation, being



discipled and a generation of teens from the route are surrendering to full time ministry. Recently, *a couple of them expressed the desire to become missionaries* .... So yeah, the trials are worth it all. (9). PRAY FOR OUR UPCOMING VBS!!

## Good news Bible club

We also restarted our Good News Bible clubs with new kids being added to the ministry. It's refreshing to see



the vision our people have for reaching their community with the Gospel. Continue to pray for the expansion of our Bible clubs throughout the neighborhood.

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## **Growing in Abundance**

### **Soccer Ministry**

What football is to Americans, soccer is even more to Brazilians. And what greater tool for the Gospel than a soccer ball and a field. Monday nights have proven to be fruitful as many men, of all ages, come out to play and then receive the Word following the game. It's proven to bring much fruit.



# **Celebrating New Life**

We celebrated with an anniversary conference in both churches – Nova Vida in Jardim Inga (17 years) and young church plant, Nova Vida in Guacuri (5 years). Several visitors in both conferences, decisions for salvation and dedication made. Nevertheless, spiritual forces were at work to hinder the event. On the week of our conference, rival gangs declared war on each <sup>1</sup>other within the church's surrounding area. God protected everyone and our services had full attendance regardless. Nothing can stop God from doing His work – the ministry is His after all. Thank-you for your prayers during all this. Grateful for Missionary Harold Gilmer and Uarlisson, our next preacher, who are overseeing the Guacuri church.



## JOIN US IN PRAYER:

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<u>New home</u> – we are so close to buying our apartment. We made an offer and now just waiting on the paperwork to be finalized. Keep praying that God will continue to confirm where our home will be.

<u>VBS – League of Champions</u> – we are planning and excited for one of our largest children's event of the year. It will be purely an evangelistic event. Pray that we can reach many children and their families in the surrounding communities. <u>Fervency, Abundance, and Wisdom</u> – all these areas for us as we lead the New Life ministry and for the body of believers in Brazil.

Your prayers and support have been of great effect for the Gospel impact in Brazil. *".... forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."* 

Abounding in Christ,

Seth and Susana

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