

DEVELOPMENT OF BRAZILIAN TIME

TIME – Training in Ministry by Extension is going on pretty well. We have finished the first module “Introduction to the Bible”. On this module the students have read *Exploring the Basics of the Bible*, by R. Laird Harris and also *The Bible and How It Came To Us*, by Jhon Mein. With these readings students could see that the Bible, the inspired word of God to mankind, crossed centuries and came to us, going through a process that took some time. The Bible we have today is almost the same one the first believers used, however with some changing due to translations and versions made by great men who devoted themselves to this task. So that the Word of God remained until these days.

Now the students are in the second module, “Old Testament Overview”. 3 textbooks have been adopted: “Exploring the Old Testament”, by Samuel Schultz and Garry Smith, “Israel Historic Overview” (available only in Portuguese), by Antonio Renato Gusso, and “Putting Together the Old Testament Puzzle”, by Bill Jones.

On August 21st and 22nd we’re going to have our first seminar on the Old Testament. The guest lecturer is Pastor Antonio Renato Gusso, doctor in Old Testament and professor of Hebrew and Greek, as well as subjects referring to the Old Testament, at Faculdade Teológica Batista do Paraná (Baptist Theological College in Paraná).

TIME WEBSITE

Pastor Jonas along with Douglas Machado, a young member of Seventh Day Baptist Church in Joinville, developed a website for TIME (www.time.cbsdb.com.br). There students have access to additional study worksheets, discussion forums (where they can solve their doubts) and also make tests regarding to each module (usually 1 test per textbook).

VISITING THE CHURCHES

Once a month, Pastor Jonas visits one church, preferably the ones which have TIME students. During the visit he gathers with the students to clarify their doubts and encourage them to study and to reason on the calling from God to their lives. He also develops activities with the church (preaching, teaching).

Pastor Jonas also spreads and promotes TIME and challenges the churches to encourage and support spiritually and financially the students. So far the churches visited were:

DOIS VIZINHOS/PR From May 05th to May 08th Pastor Jonas has been visited both churches in the city of Dois Vizinhos (First SDB Church and Linha dos Alemães SDB Church). It was amazing to witness the revival of the church after the arrival of Pastor Luiz Rogério Palhano, TIME student. He accepted God's call for the ministry 11 months ago. He left his job in Canoinhas/SC and accepted the invitation to be pastor in Dois Vizinhos, where he was ordained. When he took over the church was almost closing the doors, today it is growing and it already counts with the participation of 40 members, and a service attendance of 60 people.

To Pastor Jonas it has been really remarkable to visit Dois Vizinhos First SDB church, for it was established by his father, Deacon Pedro Sommer. There Pastor Jonas was born and dedicated to the Lord. The brethren were looking forward for Pastor Jonas's visit after he has been ordained to ministry.

It has also been rewarding to see that the brothers and sisters from the Church in Linha dos Alemães (in the countryside), remain steady on doing the work of the Lord.

Sabbath School and the Morning Service were celebrated in Linha dos Alemães, followed by a delicious lunch with barbecue, prepared with much love by the brethren, and at night we had the special service of Mother's Day at First SDB Church, which is celebrated in Brazil on the second Sunday from May.



*Brazilian Barbecue – Special lunch at
Dois Vizinhos SDB Church.*

SANTO ANTONIO DO SUDOESTE/PR On Sunday, May 09th, Pastor Jonas visited the church in Santo Antonio do Sudoeste, and he could have some talk with Pastor Elias Castanho, TIME student as well. He delivered the night service sermon. The church temple is being remodeled. It is a small congregation,

but in love with the Lord's work. Pastor Elias also attends to the congregations in Foz do Iguaçu and Cunha Porã.

GARUVA/SC On June 05th, Pastor Jonas visited SDB Church in Garuva. We have three students on that church, the young couple Edonir and Heloísa and also the young lady Rosenéia. In the morning we had the Sabbath School and Pastor Jonas taught in Adults Class, while his wife Clarice and his ten months old son Marcos Paulo participated with the children.

Clarice was amazed with the beautiful work with the children in Sabbath School. In the afternoon Pastor Jonas gathered with the students and was "bombed" with several questions and the textbook they are studying, which showed the effort of the students. At present the church in Garuva is without a full time pastor, but the young man Edonir, with his wife Heloísa's help and his sister Rosenéia's, he has developed a good work. Pastor Jonas also challenged Edonir to ponder on God's call to the ministry.



Children's prayer moment at Garuva SDB Church

SANTA ROSA/RS On July 03rd Pastor Jonas visited SDB Church in Santa Rosa, in the state of Rio Grande do Sul. It was a very special Sabbath, with Pastor Jonas teaching at Sabbath School. After that there was a delicious lunch. Surely we couldn't miss the traditional chimarrão¹ circles, before lunch. In the afternoon a lecture was given and we finished with a special praise and thanksgiving service given to God.

On this visit Pastor Jonas received a good feedback from Pastor Marcos, TIME student, who shared how much the course has helped him at the ministry. Some brethren also told about the improvement they have noticed in Pastor Marcos's sermons.

Pastor Marcos de Oliveira is the youngest son of yearning Pastor



Santa Rosa SDB Church

Orizo de Oliveira, who was one of the pioneers and most beloved pastor in Seventh Day Baptist Churches in Brazil and he was the one who founded the church in Santa Rosa/RS.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- For Pastor Luiz Rogério Palhano, so that the church go on growing in Dois Vizinhos;
- For the remodeling of SDB Church in Santo Antonio do Sudoeste;
- For the young couple Edonir and Heloísa, from SDB in Garuva, who are thinking on their calling for the ministry;
- For Pastor Marcos de Oliveira and his ministry;
- For wisdom and direction from God to Pastor Jonas, and his family as well, and for Clarice, who is pregnant again.

¹ **Chimarrão** is a traditional South Brazilian infused drink. It is prepared from steeping dried leaves of yerba mate (*Ilex paraguariensis*, known in Portuguese as *erva mate*) in hot water. It is served with a metal straw from a shared hollow calabash gourd. The straw is called *bomba* in Portuguese. The straw is traditionally made of silver. The gourd is known as *cuia*. Even if the water comes in a very modern thermos, the infusion is traditionally drunk from *mates* or *cuias*. "Tea-bag" type infusions of mate have been on the market in Brazil for many years under such trade names as "Mate Leão". This is considered a completely different drink, and is never drunk on *cuias* or called *chimarrão*, nor is it associated with the *gaúcha* culture.