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“Planting Season”

In correcting the church in Corinth, Paul very wisely wrote, “I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.” Our goal, in everything that we do, should be that God would get all the glory. Paul knew that and strived to live it in his life. There is a time where the “seed is sown” and a time when “the harvest comes in.” This past month has been the planting time. We were able to start back up this month our evangelism efforts in the neighborhoods here in Belo Jardim and the people have been excited about it. We are continuing discipleship with some new converts and one of those has been bringing a friend from work to church with her. Dalvan continues to grow and bring his girlfriend Dayane to church with him, but the highlight of last month was the men’s retreat.



In January, Bro. Nash, Pr. Edilson and I began planning for a men’s retreat among our three churches. A Christian camp was found and we began our planning to focus on calling men to commitment to God with their families and the church. Each of us would teach a session about a different aspect of a man’s commitment to God. Thankfully, although the turnout was not as large as we had hoped, the men who came were interested in hearing and learning about their responsibilities. Sev-

eral men made decisions, and one man to whom Bro. Nash has been witnessing for nearly five years decided to trust Christ as his Savior. Seeds were planted in the lives of these men that we pray will bear fruit in the future in their families as well as in their churches. I had the privilege to teach on the commitment of the man with his family in relation to the church.

The end of this month saw us celebrate seven years ministering here in Belo Jardim. We held services Saturday and Sunday with our theme being “The Path of Christ”. We studied Baptist history and remembered what the Lord has done in and through the ministry here for the last seven years. We had many visitors over the course of the weekend and on Sunday we had almost a full house. God allowed us to have many new contacts, who we hope and pray to evangelize and have the opportunity to win to Christ.

A young lady came to Christ last month. You can be praying for Lane (LAW-nee) as she begins to grow in the Lord. She is engaged and wants to see her fiancé com to Christ as well. We will be holding services in the houses of our people each month so we will be having more opportunities to plant the “good seed.”



Check out Cynthia’s Daily Blog @ www.dickensstory.com/blog

From Her Perspective

Cynthia Dickens



Have you ever seen peace? Maybe peace seems like an abstract idea, a political status, a state of being.

But seeing peace? Hmmmm. It’s a beautiful thing! I’m seeing it these days – in the eyes, actions and attitude of one of our church members. Perhaps that person and others around them didn’t even realize they weren’t at peace. But when we reach a point of surrender and apply a needed change in our lives, it brings peace that you can’t fathom unless you’ve actually experienced it. Accepting Christ as Savior is one of those points, but there are many in the Christian life – points of submission to God’s Word that have infinitely peaceful results. I’m not talking about a sensation of relaxing and being carried afloat upon calm waters. I’m talking more about how you see a soldier stand when he’s been told “At ease!” It’s a peaceful fortitude – a peace that what you’ve finally accepted and applied to your life is pleasing to the Lord and a fortitude that will not be swayed by others’ thoughts, opinions, or reactions. In many (most) situations in life, we have much more control than we want to admit over whether or not we experience peace. Do you value peace enough to submit to the Lord, face opposition, and stand “at ease”?

Special Prayer Requests

- NEW CONVERTS, DISCIPLESHIP AND BAPTISM
- LAND FOR BUILDING
- A MAN TO PASTOR THE CONGREGATION
- LABOURERS FOR THE HARVEST FIELD

Those Little Dickens!



One day, Joel was grilling some meat in the front yard. When he came in for a minute, Daniella asked him primly, “Daddy, are we going to eat *al fresco*?”

Joel stopped dead in his tracks, did a double take, and queried, “What??”

“Are we going to eat *al fresco*?” she reiterated and continued in a teacher-ish tone, “That’s a fancy word for ‘outside,’ Daddy. That’s what Fancy Nancy says!”

He controlled himself long enough to let her know that we were not eating outside, but he lost it when he stepped out of the room.

LOL! We both got a good laugh at our fancy-talkin’ daughter. :D

