



MAY 2025

STILL IN THE PLACE GOD WANTS US

Praises

- Praise the Lord for his guidance in a year of transition.
- Praise the Lord as our partners, the Rio Grande do Sul Baptist Convention, celebrate their 100th anniversary.

Prayer

- Please pray with Tania and our field about starting a church plant among Venezuelan immigrants.
- Please pray for guidance and wisdom as we expand our partnerships in southern Brazil.

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

JOHN 14:6 (NIV)



Teaching at the Southern Independent Baptist Theological Seminary.

As I shared in my last prayer letter, I have started teaching at a different seminary in Brazil. I am now able to share more of the background story.

Within the Brazilian Baptist Convention is an order made up of ordained pastors. It is up to this body to decide on the requirements for ministerial credentials within the convention. In September of 2024, a decision was made to increase the number of credits required at the seminary

level. For the seminary where I have served since 2004, this would mean doubling the number of credits we offer in our Pastoral Formation program. It also happened that last year our state's sister Baptist seminary opened a satellite campus in the same city where we are located, offering a distance education bachelor of Theology degree, which meets the new requirements for ordination. Therefore, in March, the board responsible for our seminary decided to close the Pastoral Formation program I have been coordinating and teaching for since 2016.

Way before knowing any of this was going to happen, in April of last year, our field started having conversations about another possible partnership with the Southern Independent Baptist Theological Seminary in a city just outside the city where we are located. Through these conversations, my colleague Brandon Jones and I were invited to become professors as of 2025. Looking back, we see God's provision and confirmation that we are still in the place he wants us!

So, in March, I started teaching at this new seminary. It is part of the Independent Baptist Convention of Brazil. The



first missionaries to plant the churches that became this convention were from Sweden. It feels like part of my heritage, as my paternal grandmother grew up in a Baptist church of Swedish immigrants in Canada. Teaching these young people has been a wonderful experience. They come from different parts of Brazil, and I even have a student from Angola!

Even with this new partnership, we remain partners with the Rio Grande do Sul Baptist Convention and look forward to plans, especially in lay leadership training and church planting later on this year. We also celebrate the 100th anniversary of the convention, which will be commemorated at their annual meetings from April 30 to May 3.

In April, my colleague Marci and I had the opportunity to visit a Bible study for Venezuelan immigrants in the city right next to ours. It is part of a nonprofit organization

helping 300 families to get settled. We are praying with their leader, Tania, about helping to start a church among this people group.



THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR CONTINUING
PARTNERSHIP AND SUPPORT!

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