
THE LOOP FAMILY

MISSIONARIES TO PORTUGAL

March-April 2019

Dear praying friends,

Some of you may remember 11 years ago when we ministered in a town called Fundão in the interior part of Portugal. We were in that town for a year and a half planting the seed of the gospel. Although we did not see much fruit during our time there, we are confident that God's Word did not return void. In January, David had an opportunity to preach to a small group of people in Fundão who have recently begun to meet in the home of Virginia and her husband Rodrigo. Virginia is originally from Fundão. Her and her husband met in Hawaii. They were thinking of moving back to Fundão in 2006, but since they didn't know of any Baptist churches they didn't move back until recently. They now continue to hold meetings in their home. An ad was placed on Facebook about this work, and several people have requested information about the services. Although this may not be a direct result of our labors in 2006, we are happy to see that there could soon be a church established in this city. Please pray for this group to reach many other people with the gospel. While meeting with this small group of people in January, David met Graça and Debora who had visited our church in Fundão in 2006. It is exciting to see this small group search for a building where they can hold their services. It's our desire that the gospel light would shine bright in this needy town.

Our annual Sweetheart Banquet was held on February 15th at a local restaurant. We had 18 people attend the banquet this year. The fellowship was sweet and we heard an outstanding message from our guest speaker on the type of husband and wife God desires us to be.

Anuraag, who David had the privilege to lead to Christ several years ago and is now a serving member of our church, is from India, and has received his PhD here in Portugal. *Anuraag was able to lead his roommate, Marcus, to Christ.* Marcus is from Namibia, an African village. The day after he accepted Christ he returned to his country as a new creature in Christ. Our hope and prayer is that he will have opportunities to share the gospel with others. It is thrilling to see the power of the gospel, and to see others share the message of hope that they have received.

The church continues to receive visitors regularly. There is a good spirit among the people. We continue to pray for both spiritual and numerical growth. We may never be a large church but our desire is that we would be a church that honors Christ and is a shining light in the community.

Jan. _____ Feb. _____

Your missionaries to Portugal,
David and Julie Loop

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