

PORTUGAL

July 2019

Sharing the Hope to the Deaf



abwe
INTERNATIONAL

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SENDING CHURCH

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PRAYERS

- ❖ Intended but haven't happen Bible Study with Vítor, Inês, João and Telma
- ❖ Translation: working on Genesis 44 and 45
- ❖ The Booths in United States for furlough until September 1st
- ❖ The Olsons' ministry here until Aug 15th
- ❖ Deaf Church this Sunday
- ❖ Growing in my walk with my Savior

TYING THE KNOTS OF LANGUAGES!

I went to the church's closet where we stored our extra Bibles and Action Bibles and grabbed one of each. I walked back to our new Deaf visitor. I signed something like this, "These Bibles are our gifts to you. Thank you for coming."

Ever since I've moved to Portugal, I have always loved giving out Bibles as gifts. But just giving these Bibles to them isn't enough. To make it more accessible, the Bible must be translated into sign language. Since translating the Book of Genesis, I've been on the look out for better quality pictures to use to help support the stories. A friend of mine that came to visit the ABWE Field Team, suggested that I contact the Action Bible company, requesting permission to use their pictures in my videos. Since the Deaf are familiar with the pictures already, I thought it was a great idea. By incorporating the Action Bible pictures, I would be able to tie together both Bibles and Portuguese Sign Language into one. I contacted them in April and I recently received approval to use them. I'm looking forward to adding the pictures and improving my videos. The next step is completing the remaining chapters and figuring out the best way to get Genesis into the hands of the Deaf. Just like the suggestion of using the Action Bible pictures, I pray that God will lead me to the right source of production for my videos of Genesis.

GETTING THE WORD OUT!

In honor of the Deaf people, the Deaf World will be celebrating Deaf Day in September which you may not know is Deaf Awareness Month. On September 23, the Portuguese Deaf will be celebrating this special occasion. I received permission to set up a booth to promote our Deaf Church, "Mãos de Fé" (Hands of Faith) with the possibility of reaching 200-400 Deaf people. In the next couple months, we will be preparing our booth and getting ready to get the word out about our church and draw people in to hear the Gospel.

A GRATEFUL HEART!

On June 18th, the Olsons arrived and since then, they have been a blessing to me. Tricia's experiences with setting a booth has given me ideas of what to set on the table and what to pass out to draw a crowd at the September celebration. The Olson's and I have visited the Deaf Associations together, visited with Deaf people in groups and one-on-one, and studied language together. I'm thankful for them because the gospel was shared with new Deaf people we haven't been in contact with before. In our church services, John Olson preached the Truth in American Sign Language while I translated into Portuguese Signs. John will preach at two more deaf services and the family will be involved in several other Deaf Association events before they leave for Germany on August 15th. All for His Glory!!

Amanda Bloom