

# Freitas Newsletter



*News Update from Ron*

*October 8-14, 2018*

The month of October was exciting as Georgia and I served in multiple roles sometimes together and sometimes separate for three weeks in Brazil. While Georgia was at the Connections Renewal in Sao Paulo I had the opportunity to teach at SerCris Bible Institute and with the new Brazilian Boa Vista Team. Here are the highlights.

## *SerCris Bible Institute in Campo Grande, Brazil*

SerCris is a Bible Institute to equip workers for ministry. They help people prepare for full time ministry or young people can also receive scholarships to get their University degree while attending SerCris. It is a great opportunity for the young people and prepares them for their careers and to be leaders in the church. It is always encouraging to spend time with them and the Directors Jose Luis Siqueria and Zanatta Valentim and their families. The course I taught was Resolving Conflicts. We spent time on the importance of resolving conflicts. Looking at a Biblical model that shows everyone how to attempt to resolve a conflict or at least do their part. Then we took an assessment to determine everyone's Conflict Style following the example of the Thomas/Killman Instrument. They discovered when conflict happens do they Compete, Avoid, Compromise, Collaborate or Accommodate. Next they got into groups to study the pros and cons of their styles for them and others and then the work groups presented their findings to the class. We also considered some steps before meeting about conflict and discerning when a group needs the help of a mediator. At the end they were asked to make a commitment to always try and live in peace and be pro-active as a peacemaker and they all received a t-shirt ("To Live in Peace") to remember their commitment.



## *New Brazilian Team for Boa Vista, Brazil!*

Great Cities Missions has refocused its efforts to plant new churches in the new capital cities in Northern Brazil. Bryan Gibbs GCM's Director of Church Development had recently recruited Teams at SerCris Bible Institute. This resulted in a partnership with GCM and SerCris working together to raise up teams in Brazil. The outcome was the new Brazilian Team for the new capital city Boa Vista in far Northern Brazil. The Team went through the GCM assessment process with Director of Care Becky Holton and Bryan.



Left to right: Luana, Thomas, Alana, João, Augusto and Ananda

Scott Reynolds, the Director of Training, asked me to work with the Team to help them to start a small group ministry in Campo Grande while finishing up SerCris and their University degrees in the next few years. This will enable them to prepare and get the practical experience for the groups they will start in Boa Vista. We had parts of three days to work on it. We covered principals of growing small group ministries. We looked at the C.A.S.A. model used by several churches in Brazil. Then each couple and single was assigned a chapter in the C.A.S.A. Leaders Training Manual to study and present the following day. The Team did a great job of presenting the important factors needed for a vibrant and growing small group ministry. Most all of them had some involvement or knowledge of the C.A.S.A. small group ministry. Check them out in action!



I am excited about this team after spending three days together. They are committed to go together and plant a growing church in a developing area of Northern Brazil. May God Bless them richly!

Please be praying for this team and our new partnership with SerCris! Ron Freitas