

James and Heather Cochrane

Location: **Porto, PORTUGAL**

Mission: **Church planting**



The small group ministry is finally up and running, and from the feedback we have had from the other four leaders, the first studies went very well and were enjoyed by all. As we continue to meet, twice a month, pray that we will grow in knowledge and wisdom, that we would grasp the teaching of Galatians, never being tempted to add anything to the true gospel of Christ. Five groups are meeting each week with a total number of 30-35 people. We are very thankful.

We came to the end of our sermon series on Ephesians in February. It was a very timely series and we believe it has encouraged and challenged the members of Comunidade Pedras Vivas (CPV). As we approach Easter we will now turn our thoughts to the "jewel of salvation" and study each of the facets of our salvation through Christ. We also continue to work our way through the New City Catechism each Sunday morning.

CPV hopes to receive a few new members at Easter time. During March we will be running a four-week membership course for those who are interested in becoming members of CPV. These classes will run before the church service each Sunday.

At the end of February, we had a get together of all the couples in CPV, something we haven't done since before Covid-19. It was a delight to gather 14 couples, have some fun together, eat desserts and delve deeper into the application of Ephesians where husbands are called to love their wives as Christ loved the church and wives are called to submit to the headship of their husbands.

It seems that as the weeks go on there are fewer Covid-19 restrictions in Portugal. For the meantime masks are still

compulsory indoors, but people in general seem much more relaxed, less fearful and we give thanks that so far CPV has been able to restart ministries and activities.



One of the small groups



Gathering of CPV married couples

Prayer points

- Pray that we would make the most of every opportunity that God gives us in our daily lives to show and speak the gospel.
- Give thanks for the five small groups and pray for spiritual growth of all who participate.
- Give thanks that the pandemic has not held us back from restarting ministries.
- Pray for those interested in membership of CPV and for the four-week course in March.
- We give thanks for the Humphries' family who will arrive in Portugal on 27 February. Give thanks for the time they had in N. Ireland to see family, rest and report to supporting churches.