



## James and Heather Cochrane

Location: **Porto, PORTUGAL**

Mission: **Church planting**



In October and November, Comunidade Pedras Vivas ran the Bible Course, produced in Portuguese by the Portuguese Bible Society. The purpose of the course is “to increase your confidence, equip you to read the Bible better and help you to see its relevance to daily life. The course provides a birds-eye view of the world’s bestselling book” (The Bible Society, UK). We had about 20 participants each night, mostly Christians from our congregation but with the presence of 3-4 either very new to the faith or just seeking answers to their doubts. It was a very positive experience. The video content along with small group discussion, a very helpful schematic diagram, personal reflection and daily readings offered the opportunity to engage with God’s word at a deeper level and to share our experiences of the Christian life with each other. This was the third group at CPV to complete the Bible Course. We have found that it is a useful tool even for Christians who haven’t quite grasped how all the books of the Bible fit together.

We have invited 3-4 of the Bible Course class to continue studying the Bible in more depth with us over the coming months. We hope this will give them a grounding in the basics of Christianity. Please pray for these meetings that it would be a time of great spiritual growth in the lives of those who participate.

## GLOBAL DISCIPLES *Go Deep Go Wide*

### DECEMBER 22/JANUARY 23

At meeting of Presbytery in November it was unanimously agreed that CPV has reached the stage of being established as a church (rather than church plant) of the denomination. It will be the first church to be established in the north of Portugal and, we discovered, it will be the largest church in the denomination. We give thanks to God for His faithfulness throughout the past 9-10 years and for the growth He has brought to CPV. We would appreciate your prayers for the next few months as we navigate the process of being constituted as a church and as we prepare local elders and possibly deacons.



*Bible course*

#### Prayer Points

- Give thanks for the Bible course and for all who took part. Pray that they will continue to read and study the Bible in their daily lives.
- Give thanks for the opportunity to continue meeting with 3-4 people to study the basics of Christianity.
- Pray for the process of being constituted as a church and for preparation of elders.
- Pray for our Christmas program at CPV with special events for Graúdos e miúdos, Adolescents and Christmas services on 18th and 23rd December.