

## Chris and Rachel Humphries

**JUNE 2021**

Location: **Porto, PORTUGAL**

Mission: **Church planting**



informal discussion to enable people to grapple with the relevance and importance of the Bible today.

Over the coming weeks, our aim is to run this course both on a Wednesday night and also on a Saturday morning in CPV to allow people to come and explore more about the Bible. But it is also an opportunity for our members to come along too and learn how to use this course with the intention that they too will be able to run this course with their friends and colleagues in the future.

Over the past few months, we as a church have been restricted to our Sunday gatherings and weekly prayer meetings. We give thanks that we have been able to meet together in this way, yet we have missed organising other events which provide opportunity for fellowship and discipleship amongst our community. We are thankful that restrictions have now eased sufficiently for us to begin running events during the week, and with this in mind, we would like to introduce you to 'The Bible Course' - a short introductory Bible overview course which we hope to run in Comunidade Pedras Vivas (CPV) over the coming weeks.

For many people in Portugal, the Bible is a book that is respected. It is common to find a Bible in homes, but sadly it can be like an ornament – something that takes pride of place in a display cabinet, yet it is rarely touched or read. As more and more younger generations are becoming increasingly disillusioned with the Roman Catholic church and as interest in other new age religions (and none) increases, the Bible itself is slowly becoming a forgotten book with little influence in peoples' lives.

As church planters engaged in Bible ministry, part of our role involves opening up the Bible and explaining the truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ to others, but with a high rate of biblical illiteracy and almost no gospel/church culture within society, we find ourselves having to build a basic foundation of biblical truths before we go any further. This is where 'The Bible Course' comes in. Created by Dr Andrew Ollerton in conjunction with the Bible Society, this course takes people through the big story of the Bible in eight sessions. It is designed for those who have little to no Bible knowledge, and also those who know their Bibles well. Each session includes both video content and



### Prayer points

- Give thanks that restrictions have eased sufficiently to allow some weekly activity to resume.
- Pray for 'The Bible Course' over the coming weeks, that as people come to have a deeper understanding of Scripture, that they too would come to know the One who inspired it.
- As the weather improves, pray for more opportunities to meet with others outside for fellowship and relationship building.