

Maio de 2007

Dili, Baucau and Manatuto

Last month I visited 2 districts near Dili. In *Baucau* I stayed for 2 days. We went on a Thursday afternoon and slept at an Indian family's house. It was an interesting experience. I had contact with some very different aspects of their culture. I can simply say that there's no sink or shower in the bathroom. You can imagine the rest from there =). But it's okay... no big problems. Transcultural experiences come with being a missionary!

On Friday we had a prayer meeting with the pastors of local churches there. Joshua was the head of it and I helped with praise and worship and also technical stuff (sound and taking photos). It was a blessing! I could practice my *Tetun* a lot.

In Manatuto, I went to help a brother to move. The organization he works with (Transformation Alliance - the same I do, semi-officially) transferred him there, to coordinate their work there. It is an organization from Singapore, that sends several groups of Doctors, Dentists and Teachers from time to time to help the poor communities of Timor. Joshua is also the field director here in Timor and I will also be involved with this, helping with transportation, translations (in a very near future) and some other things. I made this trip in the moving truck. I could see the road through the truck's floor, but we didn't have an major problems - or minor ones. =)

We also had, in Dili, two prayer meetings, that take place every month: *Business @ Prayer*, which focuses on marketplace people, mostly Christians, international or timorese. About 25 people came. We had breakfast together and had a moment of ministry and study of God's Word.

Pastor @ Prayer, prayer meeting for pastors, like the one we had in Baucau, we also had in *Dili*. We have plans of having this meeting on all 13 districts of Timor. And maybe, once every 6 months all the pastores can get together in a district to pray all together. These are future plans, but it doesn't hurt to pray about this now, does it?

Global Day of Prayer

Last year, more that 200 nations got united for a whole day to pray and cry out to God. This year, we will have a Day of Prayer, for the first time in East Timor, on May 27th. We won't be having an all-day event, but we are prayer that this nation, this people and the Local Church be changed. And it is happening already. I can just say that more than 10 pastors are getting together to organize this event! Pray that there won't be any retaliation and that we will be able to get all authorizations needed from the authorities so that this project can take place.



School of Woship

This month we will be receiving a group from Brasil, from Vila do Louvor (*Praise Village*), a part of YWAM. For those that don't know, Beto Tavares, Vilas's leader is the official "version-maker" of Vineyard in Brazil. It will be 5 weeks as a lot of praise, worship, fellowship, teaching and intimacy with God. We are translating many songs from Portuguese and English to Tetun. Beto also wrote some songs and has a desire to record a CD here, with songs in Tetun. It will be a tremendous opportunity to teach a little bit more about praise and worship to the timorese people. They have never had a School of Worship before. We are making history!



Pastor @ Prayer in Baucau



Rice crops in Manatuto

Everyday Stuff

In both the trips to Baucau and Manatuto, and also when I walk around Dili, I could see how beautiful this country is! As an amateur-enthusiastic-photographer I don't leave my house without the camera and have already taken hundreds of photos! As soon as possible, I will send you some photos, so your desire to come here can be increased intensively... This photo on the first page is of the "Cristo Rei" statue, a smaller *Cristo Redentor*. Joshua, Julius (a brother from Papua New Guinea I met in America) went there a few days ago, took pictures, hung out, had fun =).

I have been helping with praise and worship in a few churches, *El Shadday* (Bahasa service) and *Victory Family Center* (English service). As of now, I am still "researching", and have been praying that God shows me which church to be engaged at more actively, so I won't be "jumping" from one church to another. You can pray for that too! I also started discipling an Indonesian, who speaks English and has been living in Timor for a few months. And also, I have been making some friends, that, I hope, will be long-term relationships. Thanks to God, I am starting to feel at home, even though I always miss Brazil.



Pastor @ Prayer in Dili

Maromak fo bensa ita hotu! God bless you all!

Kristu nia dame,
André

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