

# SILVA'S FAMILY

## MISSIONARIES IN NORTHEAST BRAZIL

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INFORMATIVE

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### 1 WHO WE ARE

Hello, we are the Silva family, my name is Ricardo, I am married to Kátia and we have two children, Rebecca aged 17 and Eric aged 13. We are Missionaries of the World Renewal Brazil Ministry and our area of activity is church planting. Since 1998 when I was still single, I received Christ as my personal Savior in 1993 at the beginning of the first Community church planted in Brazil by Pastor Tele Moraes and his wife Heather.



\* **Group of Americans -1994** - Second year of the Carpina Community Church / **Day of my testimony and baptism.**



### 2 MY CALLING

When I finished high school I was sent to the biblical institute to better prepare myself for the ministry, during that period I became a youth leader at the Carpina Community Church. That was a very important period in my life, because seeing the example of Pr. Tele and his wife and their passion for the Lord and ministry, the love they had in preaching the gospel and reaching the lost, I felt the Lord's call to also proclaim the gospel of Jesus to the lost.



\* **Beginning** of the Lagoa de Itaenga church - Evangelizing motorcycle taxi drivers.

### 3 FIRST CHURCH PLANTED

In 1998, together with a group of young people from the Carpina Community Church, we began planting the Guadalajara Community Church and that was one of the most memorable experiences of my life. In 2002, still single, once again with the help of a team, this time, a team of young people from the Guadalajara church, we began planting the Ameixas Community church and in 2003, but once with the youth team from Guadalajara, We started the third church plant, the community church of Lagoa de Itaenga, it was a very busy period, because we were doing lots of ministry.



Lagoa de Itaenga Community church

## 4 MOMENT OF CRISIS

In 2004 I married Kátia, at the time, she was one of the young women from the Carpina Community Church who helped us with the church planting on the weekends. In 2010, after spending 12 years in the church in Guadalajara and having formed a good leadership, we decided to leave Guadalajara and remain pastoring only the church in Lagoa de Itaenga, a few years earlier we had left the Community church of Ameixas under the responsibility of the Community church of Carpina, as the Carpina church had been our partner in planting the Ameixas church. When we were solely responsible for the community church in Lagoa de Itaenga, Kátia and I decided to move from Carpina to the city of Lagoa de Itaenga, even with only 35% support, with Rebecca being 4 years old and Kátia pregnant with Eric, it was the worst period of our lives, ministerially it was a blessing for the growth of the church, but for our family, it was a moment of testing, with the economic problem in the United States at that time, our support was not enough, it fell to less than 50%, in putting us in a critical situation, without money, with the baby that had just been born, with a lack of water in the city for more than 3 months, with Kattia who was suffering from postpartum depression, with the car in the garage and without fuel, with an accumulation of debts. We were in the process of growing the church, but with many difficulties, and 100% of our support came from the United States, but due to the economic mess, we felt lost, so we needed to return to Carpina, so that Kattia could be close to her mother who can help us. even in Carpina we continued with the work in Lagoa de Itaenga. It was the most difficult period of our lives, on the other hand, we could see God's hand on us and the Lord took care of us.

## 5

## OUR GOALS

The years passed and the Lord, as always, conducted His work wonderfully, with the help of some brothers we managed to strengthen the church, form leadership and establish the church. In 2019, the Lord challenged us to start another church plant. With the team of leaders and young people from the Lagoa de Itaenga church, we started the Feira Nova Community Church and even during the pandemic, the Lord continued to bless us, with that we started the Living Stones Ministry in that community, since a large part of children in the community live at risk, with the planting of Living Stones in our church, we are able to not only teach children in the community Portuguese, mathematics, give them food, but bring the precious message of the gospel to them, to their parents, to the community. Before, my dream was to plant 7 churches throughout my life, but the Lord has changed my plans and revealed His plans to me. Why plant only seven churches alone, when we can train capable leaders who can go from this vision and plant many other churches? In recent years, the Lord has been sending us young people with the desire to get involved in the ministry, so we will train them to together take the gospel of the Lord Jesus to other communities to plant churches and expand the Kingdom of God, until Christ returns.

## 6

## GRATITUDE

1. For my wife and children who accompanied me on this journey.
2. For God's care and direction in our lives and ministry.
3. For our Supporters and team who have participated with us in the Lord's work.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

1. For God's care in our lives.
2. Raising support, we still only have 45% of support.
3. For our sabbatical, we have been in ministry non-stop since 1998. (May the Lord meet our needs).

