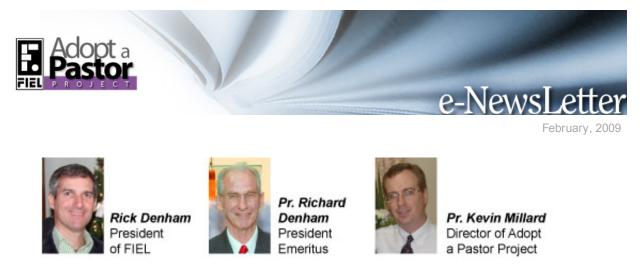
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Dear James,

Greetings to you from our FIEL (faithful) headquarters here in São Jose dos Campos, Brazil! We are beginning a new form of communication with those of you who are involved with the Adopt a Pastor Project, and it's called our E-Newsletter. Our plan is to send out a quarterly newsletter that will include the latest news about the Project, testimonies from adopted pastors and occasional photos. The E-Newsletter will also enable you to share with many others how God is using the Adopt a Pastor Project to impact hundreds of Portuguese-speaking pastors and leaders in various parts of the world. Who knows, they might want to adopt a pastor too!

From the Director's Desk



Currently, there are 301 pastors and leaders in the Project. Of these, 206 are from Brazil, 21 from Portugal, 69 from Mozambique and 5 from Angola. The total number of pastors and leaders who have graduated from the Project (completed at least three years) is 300. Upon graduation these men are given the status of "Emeritos" (emeritus) and continue to receive some of FIEL's latest publications and our FIEL Magazine, Faith

for Today. Often a sponsor (an individual or a church) who has helped a pastor for three years, decides to adopt a new pastor and continues helping him for an additional three years. Because of the effectiveness of the Project, we have seen this happen countless times. Testimonies like the following are what the Adopt a Pastor Project is all about.

## Testimonies

"I praise God for the blessings poured out upon us in 2008. Participating in the 24th FIEL Conference was a gift from God. I am happy to be able to utilize the books from the Project and to see that they help me in devotionals and sermons."

## - Pastor Elvis Kleiber, Brazil

"With much joy I write, after so many blessings received by means of the books as well as the participation in the conference of 2008. It was wonderful! I am grateful to you and the (FIEL) Publishing House for being instruments used by the Lord in the fruitfulness of these blessings. In recent months my library was enriched with by the following books: Daniel (Vol. 1&2) by John Calvin; The Truth War by John MacArthur, and The Expository Genius of John Calvin by Steven J. Lawson."

- Pastor Lupercio Agueiro, Brazil

"It is with a grateful heart that I write you to relate my happiness with the books I have received to edify my life and my ministry, helping me grow in the grace and knowledge of our God. Always, every two months, I receive (two) books that are true treasures for the Christian life. I confess that I do not have money to repay you for helping so many pastors, of which I am part. I pray for my sponsors in the United States of America, asking God's favor in their behalf in the name of Jesus." - *Rubem Alexandre Monte Bezerra, Brazil* 

"We praise God for the Adopt a Pastor Project, which in a special way has blessed us, enabling us through these donations. We pray that God will permit this project to continue steadfast with our valuable collaboration... Only the Lord Who is the owner of all riches can recompense you for blessing us in 2008 via the pastoral library project."

### - Pastor Joao Batista da Silva, Brazil

# **Pastor Focus**

I had the privilege of meeting Pastor Pedro Paulo Alfonso at one of our recent Fiel Conferences in Portugal. Shortly after the conference, we were able to include him in the Adopt a Pastor Project, providing him with a book a month and help for he and his wife to attend the Fiel Conference. Through the Project he has received a number of books and has attended the past two conferences in Portugal. Pastor Alfonso was a Catholic priest for 25 years, including 16 years in Lisbon, Portugal. He writes concerning his many years as a priest, "I left the priesthood because I was spiritually empty and ignorant of my salvation



although my soul within me was anxious and disturbed." He asked and received permission from Pope John Paul II to leave his priestly ministry whereupon he began attending a Baptist Evangelical Church. It was there that the Holy Spirit worked in his life and by the marvelous grace of God he was saved. After being baptized, the Lord put it in his heart to take the true gospel and proclaim it to those who are still in darkness. He writes, "Now God gave me a wonderful new opportunity to pastor a local church and that I feel is the richest of privileges... standing in the pulpit week after week and preach God's Word is the highest calling." He has been in the Adopt a Pastor Project for one year and he says concerning the books he is receiving "These books are really helping me to grow spiritually and to continue to walk with the Lord in His power and strength, thus sharing with the church the riches of His Word. Pastor Alfonso has been married for seven years to his wife Sheryl, who plays the church organ.

## **Closing Thoughts**

Thank you for giving to the Adopt a Pastor Project, which God is using to impact the lives of pastors, their families and hundreds of people they minister to every week. We want to encourage you to forward the E-newsletter to others that might have an interest in reading about what God is doing in the lives of these pastors and others in the Portuguese-speaking world. May the Lord richly bless you!

### Kevin Millard

Adopt a Pastor Director

I would love to answer any questions you might have about your pastor or how you may sponsor additional pastors. Please <u>email me</u> or call me (864) 278-8250.

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