



INTERNATIONAL REFORMED THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Bristol, VA, www.pro-rege.net

The IRTC provides a theological education online in Portuguese for students from Portugal, Brazil, Mozambique, and around the world who are unable to go to a seminary. We are praying for the Lord to raise up more supporters for this ministry.

February 2015 Newsletter

“You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”
(2 Timothy 2:1-2)

Our new academic year at the IRTC has started off well offering seven courses with knowledgeable and experienced theological instructors. Their desire is not only to teach the intellect but the heart that the Holy Spirit would transform the students' lives to be like Christ. In this issue of our newsletter, we feature an interview with Prof. Leandro Lima who is currently teaching on the Westminster Standards.

Interview with Prof. Leandro Lima

1) Could you tell us briefly about your call to the ministry?

My conversion to Christ happened when I was 18 years old. I immediately felt a calling to serve the Lord zealously. Then, after a brief theological training, I started planting a church as a missionary. Later, I went to seminary, and there I felt the call to teach.

2) Besides being a pastor and professor of theology, you are also a writer. Could you tell us a little about your book “Olam's World”?

By God's grace, I have written around 15 literary works so far. Out of these, I have developed a literary work of fantasy called “The Chronicles of Olam”, currently in Fiel Publishing House. This is a work with a reformed Christian worldview. It is a story that seeks to have literary value in itself and also tries to transmit values for adolescents and young people who are the target audience of the trilogy. Volumes 1 and 2 are already written, and the third is still in production. Volume 1, entitled “Light and Shadows”, will be reissued in March 2015 by

Fiel Publishing House. “Olam” is a Hebrew word meaning “eternity.”

3) What would be your advice for a theology student regarding his academic life?

Theological studies are essential to Christian service, however one must not forget the godly life. Students must rigorously manage the gift of time that God has given them, invest in reading, and also strive to achieve their very best in the courses they are taking. This is a unique time. To waste it would bring great losses in the future.

4) What would be your advice for a theology student regarding his spiritual life?

Always try to see the relationships between theological studies and godly life, so that you can make the one feed the other and vice versa.

5) What books would you recommend to a student of theology or a ministry leader?

There is an endless number of good books. I think a student must not fail to read some of the reformed classics of systematic theology, including: Calvin, Turretin, Bavinck, Kuyper, Berkhof, Hodge.



Leandro Antonio de Lima

Married with Vivian and father of Viktor Daniel, he is a Presbyterian minister and teaches New Testament and Systematic Theology at Andrew Jumper Postgraduate Presbyterian Center - Mackenzie. He has a PhD in Literature (Studies in Revelation) and is author of several books. A few of them are “Reason for Hope - Theology for Today” (Cultura Cristã Publishing House) and The Chronicles of Olam (work of fiction in three volumes). At the IRTC, he teaches the following courses: Christ and Salvation, The Holy Spirit and the Church, Contemporary Theology, and Westminster Standards.

IRTC Around the World



Fernando Sulate is Mozambican and now lives in Doha, Qatar with his wife Virginia and their two sons Norman (7) and Euclides (5). He has greatly benefited from the learning he has received by the IRTC, where he is taking his Bachelors in Pre-Pastoral Studies. Living in an Islamic country with great cultural and religious diversity has given Fernando many cross-cultural challenges when sharing the Gospel. He hopes to acquire Bibles and English materials to help with the outreach to foreigners who have moved to the country for job opportunities. Portuguese-speaking believers meet with him weekly to hear him share the Word of the Lord. Let us pray for Fernando and family and his ministry in Doha!



Church service in the church of the Sulate family



Choir being led by Sister Virginia Sulate



“The Village of Churches” where Christian worship is tolerated



Bible study in the small group

Why and How to Support Us

We are very grateful to the Lord for the financial amount received in 2014. We also thank the Lord for the prayers and donations from our beloved supporters. In 2015, we again have the challenge of meeting our annual financial goal in order to pay all our expenses (more information will be found in the next newsletter). We always bear in mind the generosity of our Lord who gave Himself for us on the cross. Also, we keep before us the need for quality theological education on the part of brothers and sisters in Christ around the world. Thus, we invite you to consider joining us in this service for the Lord's sake, financially helping us. We also invite you to share with us in praying and promoting our educational ministry to Portuguese-speaking people around the globe. If you would like to make a donation, visit the “Donations” page on our website (www.pro-rege.net/ds14.htm). There you will find all the information necessary for making your contribution in the USA. Canadian donors, please make your donations at www.irtcsociety.ca. May the God of all grace, who meets all our needs, bless you and use us to fulfill His purposes in 2015!

Clovis Alexandre Oliveira
IRTC Student