

Discipleship  
Journeys  
with Jesus



April 2019



### What's happening in the ministry?

I'm asked this question frequently, so here's an update.

During the first 3 months of 2019, we've made some great progress:

- **Jason Resende**, living in Uberlandia, Brazil, **has moved from a volunteer to a full-time staff member in the Materials Dept, with an emphasis on translations**, in addition to being our Latin America Representative he has been able to recruit several new translators.
- Jason's **Brazilian Portuguese translation** of the first quarter has been completed and **is on our website**, along with the videos, which include voiceovers into Portuguese.
- **Our new promotional video** has been completed and **is available on our homepage**. It's getting rave reviews—please check it out, it is just 4 minutes and 10 seconds.
- **We're releasing the third quarter of materials in English soon!** They are in the final design phase for the written lessons and the final editing stage for the videos, that were filmed in the Bible Lands last year. We have a local small group finishing their testing of Quarter 3.
- We have received Hindi translations of Q1 and Q2 and they are now moved into the design phase.
- **We have translators working on Bengali, Spanish, Hindi, Chichewa, and Chinese. We have potential translators for Japanese, French, and Swahili.**
- Our materials have been downloaded in 49 countries.
- We'll soon be receiving donated web impressions from Outreach Inc.
- We launched a new tab on our website to share the stories of lives that have been impacted by these discipleship journeys.
- We've created new maps for our journey lessons which means we have sole ownership.
- We've recorded intro and closing videos for the first 3 quarters.
- **We've started to work on a leader's guide for Quarter 1.**
- We are working on revisions for both QuickStart and Partnership trainings.
- We created an Infographic that can be used to draw people to the ministry.
- **My website, [markalanwilliams.net](http://markalanwilliams.net) has been updated and now ties in with our discipleship focus.**
- Our Board met and set our 2019 budget, which includes some God-sized dream goals, if funded.

**You might say that our roots are going deeper and deeper—and we're expanding and at the same time; creating the infrastructure to build continued growth.** As you can see, Jason, Patty and I have been busy so far in 2019!

Why are we doing this? **Because Jesus' Great Commission was and still is to "go and make disciples."** **Discipleship starts with a decision.** But that's not enough, we're to "make disciples" i.e. committed followers of Jesus Christ.

Our vision: **To take 100 million people on discipleship journeys with Jesus!**

Thank you for your prayers and support in this God-sized vision!



Dr. Mark Alan Williams  
Founder and President

# Jason Resende: Latin America Update

A celebration was held at the Shopping Park 1 Church in Uberlandia, Brazil, on December 9, 2018, led by Latin America Rep and Materials/Translations Director, Jason Resende. They celebrated the first 20 people completing Quarter 1 and they received their Certificate of Completion. A special band led worship and Pastor Fernando Franco, senior pastor of Sal da Terra Parque do Sabiá Church preached. A wonderful meal was also served.

Pastor Alfredo Ferrão said, “I’ve used a lot of other lessons and things, but this is putting in me a desire to study more and understand more. I’m glad to God for Discipleship Journeys with Jesus.” Another woman, Anita talked about Journey 3 and memorizing verses to challenge temptations of the devil, “When I was reading, I saw myself in the lesson and it helped me testify about the love of God in me.” **She was having suicidal thoughts and other problems, but now is remembering and proclaiming the Bible verses. Praise God!**

Another woman, who came to church drunk, left the church, but came back saying that a voice told her to go back to church. She was prayed over and counseled. Jason and his wife, Fabiana, visited her home later that day. Her grandson wrote a letter to Santa saying, “I’m 10 years, I believe in God. I have a problem, my bike broke and I need it to take my sister to school and for me too. Please give me another bike. It doesn’t need to be new, just working.” Jason and Fabiana gave a bike to them, in the name of Jesus. They also invited other people in the church to help and the family was blessed with food and other necessities.



Jason and others in the church helped out the boy with a bike and other needs.

One man, who is very quiet, spoke up about the kind of work the church needs to do: care more and help more people. He talked about the drunken woman saying, “I think it is our responsibility to walk together with this woman. We will build her a house and help with food, but we need to help the daughter and granddaughters.” Another person testified about baptism and how he had been in the church but had not been baptized. Three people received baptism after studying Journey 2 which talks about baptism. The son of one of the pastors was also baptized.



Jason just finished the last edits on the voiceovers in the videos for Quarter 1. Mark sounds like he is speaking fluent Portuguese thanks to Jason’s hard work. **They are now available for download on [djjministry.org](http://djjministry.org).**

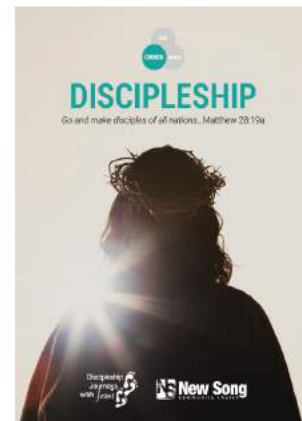
1. Pray for Jason’s work on translations and materials.
2. Pray for the potential translators being developed.
3. Pray for Siddhartha, pictured on the left, as he and Jason collaborate on Bengali translation. (Here they worked on voiceovers for the Holy Land Videos.)
4. Pray for French translation.
5. Pray for Chinese translation.
6. Pray for the potential Japanese translation.
7. Pray for the potential Swahili translation.
8. Pray for those already translating Spanish, Chinese, Hindi and Chichewa.

# Discipleship QuickStart: Available Now to Bring to Your Church or Ministry

Are you involved in a ministry that could benefit from the 2.5 hour discipleship class? This class has 4 journeys that will bring a greater understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. It covers four discipleship areas in the same format as the other DJJ journeys:

- ◆ Why should I be part of a discipleship group?
- ◆ How can I structure my prayer life?
- ◆ Why should I study the Bible?
- ◆ What does the Bible say about giving?

If bringing this to your church or pastor interests you, please reach out to us by emailing [service@djjministry.org](mailto:service@djjministry.org) and we will connect with you. The cover shown can be adapted with your logo or church name. Contact us, we'd love to help you!



## Journey to Germany's Passion Play in 2020



Since 1634, the most famous Passion Play in the world has taken place in Oberammergau, Germany. The tradition maintained and experienced almost without interruption for over 380 years, of putting on the play about the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ every ten years.

The village of Oberammergau at the edge of the Bavarian Alps expects approximately 500,000 visitors for the passion play, over half of which will be international guests. All participants, from actors playing the big speaking parts such as Jesus, Mary or Judas, through members of the choir, orchestra, firemen and ushers, must have been born in Oberammergau or lived there for at least 20 years. Over 2,000 Ober villagers will participate in the 2020 Passion Play.

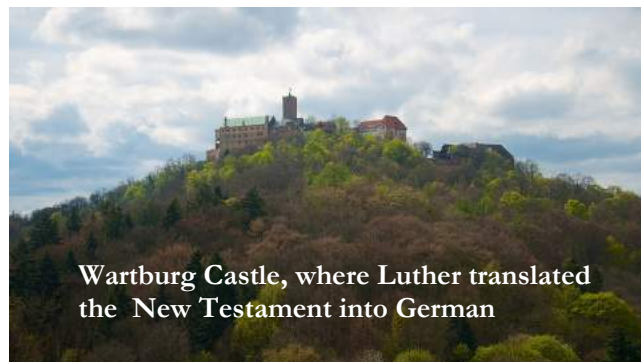
**We are planning to go to this Passion Play and have as many DJJ friends as are able to join us!**

Mark & Carolyn will be joined by DJJ Board Chairman Pastor Carlos & Lisa Sales.

To make the trip even more special, it will be combined with a Reformation Heritage Tour of locations in Germany and Austria. **We'll visit the famous Wittenberg door where Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses** that helped spark the Reformation. **We'll visit the Wartburg Castle**, where Luther translated the New Testament into German in 1522 (in just 11 weeks)!

We will also visit Innsbruck, Austria, site of two Olympic winter games and Nuremberg, with a visit to the Reichstag Museum. These are just some of the sites we'll visit in this trip, July 7-16, 2020.

**We'd love to have you join us!** To learn more, contact Mark: [mark@djjministry.org](mailto:mark@djjministry.org) or go to [markalanwilliams.net/PassionPlay](http://markalanwilliams.net/PassionPlay)



Wartburg Castle, where Luther translated the New Testament into German

# Translation Department Update and Request:

**One of the remarkable ways God is blessing Discipleship Journeys with Jesus is through those who have either volunteered to translate or fund translations of the discipleship materials.**

Recently, we received this email from Kenya offering to translate into Swahili:

Dear Brother Mark,

I hereby request for permission to translate your teachings into Swahili. Swahili language is used in 7 countries of East Africa and am sure if translated we will be able to reach hundreds of thousands of Christians in those countries. I would like to volunteer and promise never to ask for payment for the work.

God bless you, family and your ministry,  
Bishop M. W.

## **Would you also like to partner with us to produce translations for the current New Testament Lessons?**

For each translation, there are expenses to put the materials in our beautiful graphic design. With 9 translations (listed below) currently in the graphic design process, the expenses add up to \$15,200. We need these funds as soon as possible.

- Portuguese, 234 million speakers, 3 Qs (\$1,200)
- Chichewa, 3 Qs (\$1,200) 12 million speakers
- Spanish in 2 formats, 8 Qs (\$3,200) 534 million speakers
- Hindi, 4 Qs (\$1,600) 615 million speakers
- Chinese, 4 Qs (\$1,600) 1.1 billion speakers
- Japanese, 4 Qs (\$1,600) 128 million speakers
- French, 4 Qs (\$1,600) 280 million speakers
- Bengali, 4 Qs (\$1,600) 265 million speakers
- Swahili, 4 Qs (\$1,600) 98 million speakers



Going through DJJ lessons in Chichewa in Malawi.

To earmark donations for this need, use the enclosed giving slip and mark the Materials/Translations box.

Thank you!

## Ways To Donate:

Visit our website:

djjministry.org and use the “donate” button to set up a donation. Links for Paypal and stock donations are available too.

Mail a donation to:

DJJ  
P.O. Box 2975  
Vista, CA 92085-2975

