

## InterVinha 2015

“I had no idea the Vineyard was so big, that it’s in almost every country in the world!”, Kita said to me one afternoon in between sessions at this years Intervinha. Intervinha was Kita’s first experience traveling outside of Maraba and her first experience with other Vineyard churches here in northern Brazil.

Intervinha is an annual conference that rotates between being national and regional. This year was a regional conference held in Altamira.

In total, eighteen members of our church here in Maraba hit the Transamazon in three vehicles to take part in the conference. We all slept in hammocks, ate together and worshipped together. New friendships were made and old ones renewed as we all spent time together as a larger Vineyard family.

The sessions, led by Derek Morphew taught that the Kingdom of God isn’t something we will only experience in the afterlife, but that it breaks through, it is the ‘already and the not yet’. This concept was a paradigm shift for many people who are new to faith.

Experiences like this help to open our minds, our hearts and give us encouragement to learn more, experience more, that our world is both small and extremely large. Those who were able to attend came back with renewed enthusiasm, encouraged that they are not just part of a church here in Maraba, but that they are part of a global family of believers who seek to live the Kingdom in their daily lives.



*Done and dusted; back in Maraba after 530km on the dusty Transamazon*

**Bergen :** [Rick.Bergen@xingu.org](mailto:Rick.Bergen@xingu.org)  
**Bouthillier:** [Transamazon@xingu.org](mailto:Transamazon@xingu.org)  
**Dolan:** [Steve.Dolan@xingu.org](mailto:Steve.Dolan@xingu.org)  
**Fultz:** [Patty.Fultz@xingu.org](mailto:Patty.Fultz@xingu.org)  
**Leshner:** [Bob.lesher@xingu.org](mailto:Bob.lesher@xingu.org)  
**Meyer:** [Christopher.Meyer@xingu.org](mailto:Christopher.Meyer@xingu.org)

**Price:** [Terry.Price@xingu.org](mailto:Terry.Price@xingu.org)  
**Rae:** [Art.Rae@xingu.org](mailto:Art.Rae@xingu.org)  
**Rupert:** [Allison.Rupert@xingu.org](mailto:Allison.Rupert@xingu.org)  
**Simon:** [Bud.Simon@xingu.org](mailto:Bud.Simon@xingu.org)  
**Snell:** [Phil.Snell@xingu.org](mailto:Phil.Snell@xingu.org)  
**Wilson:** [Keith.Wilson@xingu.org](mailto:Keith.Wilson@xingu.org)

### Donation in USA

Xingu Mission - PO Box 340785  
 Columbus, Ohio 43234

### Donation in Canada

Xtreme Mercy - # 3 - 8979 Broadway  
 Chilliwack, BC V2P 5V9



# XM Field Report

## Planting Churches & Training Leaders

### Discovery Bible Series

Friday night over 30 people came to church for a special meeting to learn about Discovery Bible Studies (DBS).

We introduced the topic. Then I called a few of the group up front and we modeled a DBS. Then the whole group broke up and practiced a DBS for themselves. There is a Portuguese word for this type of learning. It is called a “testdrive”. Brazilians always smile when people use this word. It sounds funny to them because it is a new 21st century word that means “learning by playing with or experimenting”.

**What did I learn from this Friday night meeting?**

1. Everyone was trying hard but the room was full of yawns during the introductory explanations.
2. It felt awkward for me to let go and allow the larger group to form whatever kind of smaller groups they wanted in order to experiment with the DBS. I wanted this to be a good meeting and now it was out of my control. (This is an important lesson for this strategy. The missionary/disciple/leader cannot



*Discovery Bible Series group discussion. There is a lot of excitement about this new opportunity*



## Discovery Bible Series



Group discussion about Discovery Bible Series

teach. The Bible and the HS are the teachers. The missionary/disciple/leader is a facilitator, leading with questions and learning to let people discover the truth.)

3. A whole new energy came into the room. Everyone woke up. The “testdrive” became a real life sharing and learning time. It was powerful.



### What are our next steps?

The group and the leadership will talk among themselves. We already have at least five requests to start Bible Discovery Groups. Can I do this with (my family) (my in-laws) (my neighbours) (my friend across town)? RGB

## The Tough Guys

We have been in Marabá long enough to see one generation of young children turn into the neighbourhood tough guys. Marabá is notorious in Brazil as a high-crime city, and our neighbourhood is infamous in this city for tough guys, drugs, bandits, and badness.



Pizza is best experienced with friends

A few weeks ago, Deanna and I were the only ones here on the Chácara. Four tough guys took over the soccer field and sent all the little kids away. I had a confrontation with them where we defined who was in charge and why. While there was some disagreement, they left. A week later we had another situation where I had to raise my voice to tell a fellow to leave,



Team Effort

causing him and his friend to lose face. Later I walked the streets of our neighbourhood and talked to some of them. I invited them for pizza the following weekend.

I realize that these fellows can fight, hate, and do destructive things better than us but we can love better than they can. We chose to play on the battlefield where we can win. Plus it would be cool if these became a generation of missionaries. This is our hope.

Some of the generation down came early to help. They were not invited but it lightened the work and added to the fun. We made

nine big pizzas and there were no leftovers. Overall, I think everyone felt encouraged and supported by the whole series of incidents. The young children felt defended, the tough guys felt honored, and lines of authority and friendship were tested. They held firm, in a good way. If you could remember to pray for these tough guys, I have a feeling they would make excellent church planters. If you would like to be on our Marabá Prayer Team, please let me know at [rick.bergen@xingu.org](mailto:rick.bergen@xingu.org).

