

28 years writing meditation ‘God with Us’

By J. Randal Matheny, in São José dos Campos, Brazil

On 9 March 1999 I published a meditation called *Deus Conosco* (God with us) on what was then called the Onelist email service. It later became Yahoo. I’m pretty sure I had been sending these by email before that, but that little bit of history is lost in the mists of time. (My present email service at fastmail goes back only to 2003.)

We’ve moved services for the meditation at times, as Internet works are wont to do, but we’ve been publishing the devotionals on our own website now at deusconosco.com since 6 June 2006. On that site, today’s devotional was the 1,101st post.

The meditations are partly doctrinal, partly devotional, always with one or two Bible verses. At times, we keep a daily schedule; at others, we manage three or four times a week. During some trips, gaps have appeared. This year, a theme was chosen for the meditations, “Christ is all,” from Colossians 3.11. We’re focusing on Jesus’ life, ministry, death, resurrection, present work, and second coming.

We don’t keep a running count of things we do, but hundreds of these devotionals have been written.

I asked some people who are subscribers to the site to describe what the service means to them. If more send us an email, we’ll post it to the GoSpeak website.

“How often have I awakened without much expectation for the day, without joy because of the difficulties, wanting a friendly hug, an encouragement, a reminder of God’s love and of Jesus’ deeds! You, brother, were used so that I might always remember that God is Father and that Jesus is our friend.” —*Alexandre Magalhães, Contagem, MG*

A SOUL AND MORE. Tennessean Karen Dauer, whom we met over a decade ago, made an unsolicited comment on The Fellowship Room recently. She gave me permission to reproduce it. I’ve edited and shortened it, but this is the gist of it.

“Randal and Vicki are sort of my heroes. Because of their prayers, perseverance, and endless email discussions, I am now a Christian. I had been Catholic a large part of my life, but I was baptized last September [2016] and now am a member of the church of Christ. The journey was hard but rewards are awesome! Even though Randal was a continent away, I was a part of his mission field via internet. One soul. Then I got to pray for another person in Brazil who also eventually became a Christian. Another soul. Now there are three others in their late teens who are going to church with me every Sunday. Two have rededicated their lives, and the third may be baptized soon. 5 souls. It’s a loving circle that originated by a single missionary in another country.”

FAMILY. So far, a change of medication is controlling the frequent rapid heartbeats of Vicki’s mom. • Micah and Valerie’s third child will be a boy, due in July. • Joel and Tansy plan to visit Brazil this year.

PRAY FOR— The growth of congregations in our RMVale region. • Liz, Douglas and Ludmila’s newborn, had heart surgery and returned home. • The conversion of people who are discovering the truth.

GoSpeak proclaims all the words of God so that eternal life in Christ may come to all people.