

## Portugal is a huge missionary challenge

MG 2015

1. Portugal is part of post-Christian Europe and in many ways has similarities with the 10-40 window. **We should point out that the protestant Reform never got to the Iberian Peninsular!**
2. Only 1% of the population in Portugal is evangelical.
3. The average size of an evangelical church in Portugal is 55 people.
4. In Portugal, there is 1 evangelical church per 7,313 inhabitants.
5. Portuguese churches need to be revitalised, as many are dying at an alarming rate. A plan for revitalising churches in Portugal is urgently needed.
6. Portugal needs 1 evangelical church per 3,500 inhabitants in an initial phase (saturation level 3). It is important to remember that this does not mean a full saturation of the country at this stage, which would mean 1 church for every 1,000 inhabitants (saturation level 1).
7. Portugal therefore needs 1,533 churches by 2015 in this initial phase (saturation level 3).
8. There are 233 places in Portugal considered to be priorities for planting new churches.
9. Portugal is an unreached country. There are 44 counties (sub-divisions of districts, with a town hall), 21 county capitals, and over 3,000 freguesias (sub-divisions of counties) with no evangelical presence.
10. We must undo the myth of what a church really is. Some paradigms actually impede the expansion of the Kingdom and must be discussed openly.
11. We must undo the myth of who can plant and lead a church. Some paradigms actually impede the expansion of the Kingdom and must be discussed openly.
12. We need to train church planters from local churches (universal priesthood - disciples who make disciples, who make disciples.)
13. We still have a great need in Portugal for foreign missionaries who are ready and able to help the Portuguese church to reach Portugal and to develop a vision for and do missions more effectively, to the ends of the Earth.