

Carol Sue and I just returned from the first-ever "Thanksgiving Breakfast" here at Word of Life Seminary...Thanksgiving is NOT a Brazilian holiday, and it's business as usual for us and everyone else in the country. But as a result of a Church History class in which our students learned about the motives of the Puritan settlers and the Mayflower Compact, they clamored for a similar opportunity to give thanks as a school. 250 staff, students and families crowded into our cafeteria early this morning for a special meal and worship service. This evening all of the Word of Life staff will have our own Thanksgiving/Christmas feast and celebration as well.

In the midst of all this celebration (and a long day in my office!) our thoughts turned to the Lord in gratitude for our supporters, some of whom have only recently joined our "ministry team" and others who have been with us for 25 years. We are profoundly grateful to the Lord that He has allowed us to represent Him on this continent, and that He has raised up individuals and churches who have faithfully served Him by standing with us all these years. The opportunities have never been greater to impact the lives of leaders present and future, as well as churches and families, with the message of the Gospel. "Thank you" seems woefully inadequate to express to the Lord and to you our gratitude. We are humbled and indebted to you for the privilege of serving in this way.

Have a wonderful time of Thanksgiving. We are grateful for you.

In His service,

Dave, Carol Sue and Keila Merkh