

OLGA BING

PRIMARY LEADER IN BRAZIL

By Sydney Squires
(Based on a true story)



Brazil is the largest country in South America.



The Book of Mormon was published in Portuguese during World War II.



Brazil has seven temples, with two more on the way.

"I miss everyone in our branch," Olga said sadly. She and her family were the only ones in Sunday School again.

Olga's sister, Wilma, closed her scriptures. "I miss them too." Mom and Grandma nodded.

Olga wanted to cry. When she was baptized, 60 people came to church each week! But then World War II started. Because of the war, all of the missionaries in Brazil had to go home. Without them, there weren't enough priesthood holders to have regular Church meetings. They couldn't bless the sacrament or baptize people.

The branch stopped renting the church building. Church members met in people's houses to study the scriptures instead. And one by one, they all started going to other churches.

When the war ended, Olga thought the branch would have church meetings again. But there weren't enough people. So Olga and her family kept meeting alone on Sunday.

"I miss singing with everyone," Olga said. "And I miss the children who used to come to church."

"Me too," said Grandma.

Over the next few days, Olga thought hard about what to do. She prayed for help. "Heavenly Father, please help us know how to make our branch strong again."

One day Olga had an idea. She went outside. Two girls were playing under a tree.

"Olá!" Olga said. "Would you like to come to my church's class for children tonight? We'll learn about Jesus, sing songs, and have fun."

The girls looked at each other. "Sure," one of them said.

"Great! If your parents say you can come, meet me here later.



Olga was baptized in Guaíba Lake.



She later became a Primary president.



Olga got married and had five children.



We can walk to the class together."

Olga waved goodbye and walked down the street. She found more children playing *futebol* (soccer). Olga invited them all.

Some of the children had come to church before. They were excited to come again! Other kids didn't want to come. But Olga let them all know they were welcome.

Later that night, Olga gathered the children who said they would come, along with their parents. They all walked together to her house.

Mom and Grandma taught the parents in one room. Olga and Wilma taught the children in another. Olga sang songs with them. Wilma told scripture stories.

Olga felt happy as she walked the children home. "Thank you for coming," she said. "See you next week!"

Their branch was small, but Olga knew it would grow again. And she wanted to plan next week's lesson right away! ●

The author lives in California, USA.