

# Käfler, Francisco

## (1899–1986)

### THE BRAZILIAN WHITE CENTER – UNASP

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Francisco Käfler

Photo courtesy of Brazilian White Center - UNASP.

Francisco Käfler, an Adventist pioneer in the state of Espírito Santo, was born on August 17, 1899, in the city of Serra Pelada in the state of Espírito Santo, Brazil. The son of Joseph and Maria Koof, he had five siblings: Alvina Käfler (Küster), Henrique, Germano, Alberta, and Albertina Käfler.<sup>1</sup>

The family's initial contact with the Adventist message took place in Santa Maria de Jetibá through books sold by Albert Stauffer, the first canvasser to work in the Brazilian territory. Francisco was instructed in the Adventist beliefs by his parents in addition to receiving an annual visit from the district pastor. He was baptized at 15 years of age on December 27, 1914, in the Serra Pelada Adventist Church.<sup>2</sup> Despite the desire to have been

baptized earlier, it was not common at that time to baptize younger children.<sup>3</sup>

Two years later, during 1917, he studied at the Brazil College (today UNASP – SP) in the city of São Paulo, but did not finish the entire course completing only the elementary school level. Years later, he married Augusta Felix Käfler, and from their union were born ten children: Dulino, Frida, Henrique, Laura, Tereza, André, Erna, Zeferino, Paulo, and Edna.<sup>4</sup>

Francisco served in the local church of Serra Pelada in many ways, standing out for his fervor and dedicated service throughout his life. In addition to this, the Käfler family donated land that was used both for the construction of the church and the cemetery in the city of Laranja da Terra in the district of Ribeirão, Espírito Santo.<sup>5</sup>

After a lifetime dedication to the Church, Francisco Käfler passed away at the age of 87 on October 12, 1986<sup>6</sup> in Laranja da Terra. Being a widower, Francisco left 10 children, 56 grandchildren, 42 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-great-grandchildren, of which many are workers for the SDA Church.<sup>7</sup>

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## SOURCES

“Coral Carlos Gomes fez turnê evangelística pelo Estado.” *Revista Adventista*, 86, no. 2 (February 1990).

“Francisco Käfler.” *Revista Adventista*, 83, no. 3 (March 1987).

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## NOTES

1. Elane Kefler Ferreira, email message to Felipe Cardoso do Nascimento, November 25, 2019.
2. “Francisco Käfler,” *Revista Adventista*, 83, no. 3 (March 1987): 36; Elane Kefler Ferreira, email message to Felipe Cardoso do Nascimento, November 25, 2019.
3. Elane Kefler Ferreira, email message to Felipe Cardoso do Nascimento, November 25, 2019.
4. “Coral Carlos Gomes fez turnê evangelística pelo Estado,” *Revista Adventista* 86, no. 2 (February 1990): 28; Elane Kefler Ferreira, email message to Felipe Cardoso do Nascimento, November 25, 2019.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
7. “Francisco Käfler,” *Revista Adventista*, 36.

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