

# The Dysert Family Newsletter

*Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among the peoples.* 1 Chronicles 16:24

Fall! What a wonderful time of the year. While some see the coming of fall as a time of winding down and preparing for winter, here in Spain, we see it as a time to begin anew after a warm summer. It never ceases to amaze us how with the coming of September the heat switch of summer turns off and the cooler temperatures roll in. Not that we didn't enjoy the summer break. We did! In July, we Dyserts attended the 2017 BWM European missionary retreat in Germany and heard great messages by Pastor Robert Lehn in our general sessions. His wife, Kay, encouraged the women from the Word, and Cindy Bunker challenged the youth. We were a small group compared to other years, but everyone who came was glad they did and left encouraged by the Word of God and the fellowship with God's people. Next summer, we plan to meet in the same place, and we will seek to encourage one another to work hard to reach the lost with the Gospel here in Europe. After the conference, we vacationed in Austria and enjoyed family time, beautiful scenery, great food, and welcoming people. It was a summer to remember! Meanwhile, Stephen and Philip were stateside working in construction together and earning money for the coming school year at BJU. We thank God for how He cares for us and provides what we need.



When September rolled around, several important things happened. First, Alice flew to the States to help care for her parents. That same day, Efrain and Martha and their kids returned from Ecuador. They came back emotionally tired due to some family matters, but returned ready to serve the Lord. Even though Alice was away, we met the final Sunday of September, and I used our time together to revisit their commitment to the outreach in Soto del Henares, which is the neighborhood where we are meeting in the language academy. Both Jose and Blanca and Efrain and Martha confirmed that they are certain that God directed them to help us with the church plant and remain committed to seeing it through. This was

very encouraging, especially since some of the neighborhood kids have been especially challenging. We have had two picnics in the park trying to reconnect with the neighborhood kids. All of them come from Muslim families and were in Morocco for three months during the summer. At our first picnic, we had food and games and about 15 children came. Several of them acted horribly that day, and we left quite emotionally drained and discouraged. On October 1, we decided to separate the boys and the girls and bring NO food. Of course, they weren't too happy about that, but most of the kids stayed and played games for a while. Tim met three neighborhood boys named Ramon, David and Rafa. When we asked the girls about coming on Sundays for our Bible chats, the majority said that if we were going to talk about the Bible they were not interested in coming any more. Because of this, we are asking the Lord to help us know how best to proceed. We do want to build redemptive relationships so that we can share Christ with these

children, but some are already so closed to hearing anything about Jesus. We have grown quite fond of them all, and they are open to having language classes or to come for a game night on another evening, which would give us an opportunity to talk and interact. Pray with us that we will know and do exactly what God wants.

We are very encouraged by what God is doing in our lives and in the lives of our core families as we move forward to plant a church. Together we decided to go out and meet people in Soto on the first weekend of each month and pass out gospel literature. While many people turned their backs to us, several took our tracts and talked with us and read the tracts. We look forward to seeing whom God is going to bring our way through this outreach. We also had our first big activity with the ladies coming to our home and the guys going to Jose and Blanca's home. The goal was to build each other up while spending time together. We all had a great time. This coming Sunday, we are going to share a meal and plan for the coming months as we want to make the most of the Christmas holidays and get the word out about the baby born in Bethlehem. You might think that Christ's birth is well known and received here, but that is not necessarily true. Pray for us as we seek to make contacts, that God would open up a door for the Gospel and remove any obstacles that might be put in our way. We want to see God glorified and for people who have never heard the Gospel to hear! How can they believe in him of whom they have never heard?

Lastly, we would ask that you pray for Spain as a nation and that God would help those that govern so that we can live in peace and share the Gospel. For quite some time, many people in the NE corner of Spain, around the Barcelona area, have desired to break off from the rest of the country and form their own separate nation. On October 1, they tried to hold a public vote, which the national government sought to keep from taking place. While they shut down many voting places, others were opened and many votes were cast. Meanwhile, a great spirit of division deepened. As you might imagine, the rest of the country began talking about boycotting businesses in that region and not taking their vacations there. This has resulted in many businesses deciding to move and a negative atmosphere that is all anyone is talking about. Because of this, the national government, led by President Rajoy, saying that this type of behavior is illegal and not good for the nation, enacted article 155 of the constitution just this past weekend, which meant that they were going to go in and remove those in power in Catalonia and work to replace that government. As of this writing, these pieces are moving, and we need to pray that God will keep this great nation intact and help those governing to have the ability to think clearly and to do what is right.

Finally, pray along with us for these items: First, for Tim as he teaches in the Seminario Biblico Bautista de España. He is three weeks into his doctrines class and has 12 students from 4 different local churches. Secondly, we are thankful that Alice is back after spending five weeks helping out at her parent's home. She had a wonderful visit. Thirdly, please pray for our kids and their schooling. Stephen is a senior and is working hard on his senior film; Phil is a sophomore and trying to balance school and work responsibilities; Nic is a high school senior and is taking his ACT this weekend; and Lydia is a freshman and is very busy with student council activities and teaching English to two children who live in the building next door. A lot is happening and we are rejoicing in God's goodness to us. Also, pray for souls here in Madrid and for us as we seek to reach them, all the while praying that God would raise up and send out workers into his harvest, and that some would come HERE. May God help us redeem the time we have.

For hearts in the heart of Spain,

Tim and Alice with Nic and Lydia here and Stephen and Phil at BJU