

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Jan 8 - 1st anniversary from first service
- Feb / March - church visits
- Mar 11 - 1st anniversary with 2 families assisting us
- Bible studies on Sundays from the book of Galatians
- Praying, learning about biblical joy.

### Special requests:

- Evangelism and outreach
- Graduations - both Nic and Stephen
- Alice's trip home
- Decision to stay in Soto or consider a new location closer to our core families
- Redemptive relationships with kids we have worked with from families from Morocco

# Dysert Ministry Update

TERM IV UPDATE VIII

MARCH 2018

## Discerning God's Directing Hand

Greetings from Spain! The first quarter of our second year of outreach to the Soto del Henares neighborhood has become interesting upon learning that some are not enthusiastic about us starting another work in Torrejon de Ardoz.. We naturally began where we live with the new growing neighborhood that has been in our prayers since construction began years ago. We've watched it fill with businesses and families: people who need the Lord. God directed us to a Christian couple from Sierra Leone who lets us meet on Sundays in the language academy they opened in Soto, and we have spent the past year or so getting to know children that live near the academy, distributing tracts, and meeting in our core families' homes on Thursdays to pray. Until now we were unaware of some feeling that another church here isn't necessary. Because of this we are seeking to know and do what the Lord wants. We have been told that in this city of 120,000 people there are 22 evangelical churches, 14 of which are English-speaking (primarily African) churches. That means that there are eight evangelical Spanish-speaking churches already, one of which is an independent Baptist church. In order to clarify the situation, Tim met with the pastor of that church to talk things over and seek a clearer picture of the need in the city. Because none of our core families live nearby and they travel a distance to be part of the Sunday meetings, and because our visitors are also coming with our core people, we are asking the Lord to make clear whether we should stay in Soto or relocate. Psalm 27 tells us to learn to wait on the Lord, and we are seeking to do exactly that. Specifically, we are taking the months of March and April to pray and seek the Lord's direction so that we can do what He wants. A friend asked if we were waiting for God to drop a sign from heaven telling us what to do next. What we know is that God will make his good and perfect will known and guide us along.

## Churches taking a vital interest

We were delighted that two of our supporting churches sent servants to encourage us and to see the work this quarter. God always sends his people at just the right time. In February, Pastor Mark and a group of six others from First Baptist Church of Rochester, MI came before heading down south to encourage some missionary families from Baptist Mid Missions serving in Africa and around Europe. They visited with us, met our core group, fellowshipped around the Word and listened to our folks share their testimonies of how they had come to Christ. What a wonderful time of fellowship we had! In March, Inter-City Baptist sent Rob to see the work and encourage us. Rob was also a big help, as he asked good questions and helped our small group think through possible steps to take as we continue in the work together. One thing is certain, we are not discouraged. In fact, we are determined to know and do what the Lord wants us to do in this church-planting endeavor. That means we are continuing in prayer, joyfully serving the Lord. We are studying the book of Galatians on Sundays and learning what the gospel message is. Thursday evenings we are studying biblical joy. Thankfully, God has brought two visitors, Rosa and Sonia, who have been coming on Sundays off and on. Rosa appears more interested lately and has started coming to our prayer meetings also. They both have Catholic backgrounds and need the Lord.

## Encouraging one another in the work of the ministry

We are thankful to God for opportunities we have to encourage others in the work. Tim taught a class on the doctrine of Angels and Demons at the local campus of SBBE and also preached once a month for a local missionary who needed to take a medical leave. Additionally, Nic and Lydia were asked to be in a 7 member ensemble to produce a Spanish Christmas CD. A businessman whose kids go to school with ours noticed that most of the Christmas music in Spanish is not Christ-centered and is mainly sung by small children. He desired to create a Christmas album telling the message of Christmas that is sung by young adults, using a mix of traditional carols and some newer songs. We just finished our recording sessions today! Our working title is *Del Trono al Pesebre* (From the Throne to the Manger). While visiting at Christmas, Stephen filmed the group at several sites around the area and he is working on making videos of five of the songs that we can upload to the internet. We are hoping to have CDs in our hands by November 1st. Part of our larger plan is to send a copy to the King and the Prime Minister of Spain, and to other leaders of Spanish-speaking countries around the globe along with the message of the gospel encouraging them to know the Christ of Christmas. Please pray for this project as we seek to use this tool to help evangelize the lost while also encouraging believers in churches both here in Spain and around the world.



## Family Matters

Both Alice and I would like to ask you to pray for our parents. Alice's mom and dad have new challenges to adapt to as her dad's Alzheimers advances. Alice will fly home April 10th to help them for a couple of weeks. Tim's dad, Ray, has been having problems with breathing due to pneumonia and has recurring boils on his ankles due to poor blood circulation. He is back in the hospital as of this writing. We know he appreciates your prayers. Lord willing, Tim will get to see him and his mom in August when he takes Nicolas to Cedarville University to begin his freshman year, although Nic has begun considering taking a gap year to improve his piano skills so he can study music and/or math once he is there. Relating to our four kids and upcoming events: Stephen is set to graduate in May from BJU. He is working hard to complete his senior film project which is to be included in the Senior Film Festival on April 28th. He was part of a four-man team from BJU to participate in a 24 hour Christian Film festival and his team won first place! You may have seen his video on Facebook relating to the subject of adoption. Meanwhile, Philip is finishing up his sophomore year at BJU studying information technology and biblical counseling. Nic and Lydia are going to Vienna next week with their school honors choir to sing with other choirs from around Europe, and then they will be coming home to participate in this year's musical production at ECA. We might sneak away for a night or two while they are away to celebrate our 30th anniversary, which simply flew by us this past June. Come May, after we see Stephen graduate, Nic should follow shortly afterwards as he is set to graduate, Lord willing, on June 1st. Life is very, very full and we are thankful to God for his blessings. It is our great privilege to serve our wonderful Lord. Thanks for praying for us! We thank God for you all. Have a blessed Easter! Lastly, if you have any questions about Spain or the work, please ask! We'd love to hear from you and would be happy to reply.

For hearts in the heart of Spain,

Tim and Alice

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