

Still in Logroño...

“Praying . . . that the Lord will open to us a door to speak the word, in order to preach the mystery of Christ” also in Catalunya. Col. 4.3

Our Next Terms' Vision:

- Church Planting in Vilafranca del Penedés and surrounding towns, pioneer work;
- Church Planting in Cubelles, in connection with the church of Vilanova i la Geltrú
- Teaching and ministerial formation of others



Our transition period till this day

We certainly believe that the Lord has given us the period from September through December to have a wonderful transition, encouraging, assuring of our love to the Logroño congregation, and seeing how they have assumed their responsibility and initiative. By the beginning of January we had a week of prayer, and it was wonderful to see that they really join us in our desire to expand the gospel in the county of Penedés. In the last weeks, they also encouraged us to take our “tools” (e.g. video projector, music stands, microphones, piano...), and they have bought theirs, all with a great attitude and joy for the next step that this purchase meant to them. We truly feel that the Lord is closing our period here with peace and assurance; “he that began the good work . . . will complete it till Jesus’ day.”

Our move

We have done repairs, painting, and continue to take care of small things, avoiding that any “broken” item might discourage potential buyers. We have contacted 15 realtors. We have put our own advertisement in 6 websites. Since October, we have received two visits a month, a very encouraging rate according to realtors (in view of Spain’s financial situation); however, we have not sold yet. We have lowered its price several times, to the point that it is very competitive and gives us enough to purchase another home when we move. On January 15th and 16th we went to the Penedés area and saw a home that would give us enough space, good communication to our places of ministry (Cubelles, Vilafranca del Penedés, and Castelldefels), and it is possible that we would be able to have enough as to avoid any mortgage. It has some years, but it still looks fine and comfortable.



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Initially our desired period to move was from October through January. Even though we are doing everything we can, our apartment has not sold. We will rest and earnestly pray to the Lord that from now and through February we will be able to sale. On the one hand, we feel that in March or April at the most, we should be in the Garraf-Penedés area working in our planned mission projects. On the other hand, it would be financially quite difficult to rent there without having sold here. In all of it, we rest in the Lord, knowing that many dear brothers and sisters pray for us in the States, in Logroño, and in Catalunya; in his time, he will intervene. Thank you very much for your prayers.

January’s ministry

Apart from preaching once and helping particularly with music in Logroño, as we visited the area of Catalunya, we preached in the church with which we will be working in one of our planned projects (Jan. 15th). We also preached in a Rumanian-Logroño church; they have been good friends who desired us to go and preach a last time before our move. In another aspect, we have dedicated an important part of our time to finish our thesis and specially to prepare material, outlines, slides, homework... for our teaching in International Faculty of Theology in Castelldefels. We will be teaching 30 hours condensed in four weeks (Feb 8th – March 3rd). The condensed schedule will provide that with only four trips Logroño-Barcelona, we will teach our subject. On the down side, it may well be that I will have to discontinue the finishing of our thesis till the end of classes.

News concerning our family!

Loida has become engaged with a nice young man. Jon (thus spelled in basque) is a good brother who gently and sincerely requested us “the hand” of our daughter. It was great. By the end of last year he requested Loida to marry him, and she accepted. Their plan is to get married around October. It will be our first child to be married. We are quite joyful and thankful to the Lord for Jon.

Thank you for your prayers and support

Thank you so much for your help in prayer for the sale of our home. Right now, that is an urgent prayer request. I would like to request prayer also for the students that I will teach. My prayer is that the Lord will use me to give them useful tools to understand the Word, but also to share enthusiasm and fervency for the Lord and his service. Thank you again for your friendship and partnership in the Gospel. May he abundantly bless and strengthen you in this new year that we have begun.

In Christ,

Manuel and Rosa Martinez.

Ps. Beginning this year, our prayer letters will be always for the first of the month at <http://tbmmartinez.blogspot.com.es/>, along with prayer requests and special-activities agenda.