



Dear friends,

God has been really good to us during our time in Monzón, Spain. We saw God lead us to a new church plant, which now will be two years old in September. From the beginning we determined that we would either help for two years or continue here if God so decided. Well, September is coming and we are moving!

We're excited to tell you about this change. God has taught us a lot here, and we are looking forward to what He has in store for our near future. Let me share with you four lessons that we've learned.

#1 To be invited to church is intimidating. After my experience witnessing in America, I came to Spain thinking that going in the street and handing out gospel tracts inviting people to church would be a piece of cake. Here, this is what Jehovah Witness do, and we often have been rejected as being "the same thing." This was not the only way we tried to get people to church: we've hosted "Friend Days," and organized soccer tournaments that brought teenagers that were willing to listen for a short while. However, do you remember the first time you visited a church? Now consider that everybody in your sphere thinks that God is irrelevant. For some people, the only church is catholic, because "aren't all Christians the same?" It is difficult to get people to visit church. We are learning the value of relationship evangelism to soften hearts, but we will also keep inviting them to come, knowing that it is difficult.

#2 People bring people. We have had a number of visitors over the time we have been here. Some have left, others have stayed. Some have brought their family members, and some have been so excited that they have told everybody they know! We were committed to doing our part: Preach the gospel and invite people to hear, encourage and disciple those that stayed. Looking back and evaluating our time here, there are things that I would do differently, but I am grateful for the opportunity we have had to minister to some people in this small town.

#3 God is good. Our family has grown. We have two beautiful boys that we get to train and admonish to love the Lord. We are so thankful to God for giving Nathan to us and for your prayers for this baby. Back in December during the pregnancy, we rushed to the ER thinking we would lose him. I remember few things from that night, but I do remember praying with my wife asking God to protect our baby. He did more than that. He strengthened our dependence on Him, deepened our faith, and demonstrated His love regardless. In a situation where we had no control, He was in complete control. It was not an easy time, but we were reminded that He is God and that He is good despite the events in life.

#4 God is good all the time. Sorry for the repetition, but it is the key to learning as I was told by my teachers. I told you we are moving, but I have not told you where, why or when. In May, we became missionaries with Tentmakers Bible Mission. This has been our desire for some time—we want our ministry to be backed by someone that will keep our ministry accountable. We have fallen in love with TBM's mission and vision in evangelizing, making disciples, and planting churches. We have partnered with them to reach North Spain for Christ.

What is this going to look like? Right now we are planning deputation in the States, God willing, from September through February. We'd like to present our project to as many churches as we can. We will return to begin serving with Pastor Manuel Martinez in Vilanova i la Gertru, Spain. His church has started some Bible studies to develop into church plants. Our goal is to train the men running the Bible studies into leaders for these potential churches. We would continue looking for evangelistic opportunities in this location, and we will seek out a future ministry location where we can start a church from ground zero.

In summary, we are very thankful for the time we have served here in Monzón and we are sorry to leave the people here, but excited for serving the Lord in Vilanova after our deputation in the States. We are incredibly thankful for your prayers for us and our ministry. We would love to have the chance to visit you and introduce our family to yours. If you are interested in seeing us and hearing about our project, please let us know!

Let me share with you our immediate needs that we would really appreciate your prayer:

- For a means of transportation when in the states.
- For God's provision as during this time we will be without an income
- That we would clearly communicate our desire to share Christ in Spain
- For a blessing upon the hearts of those who receive us
- For the kickstart of our new ministry back here in Spain

Love in Christ,

Victor and Maddy Ramirez

