

**“Oh give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name;
Make known His deeds among the peoples.
Sing to Him, sing praises to Him;
Speak of all His wonders.”
Psalm 105:1-2**

Our Dear Friends,

Fall has brought our family and ministry a flurry of changes since the sunny days of summer. Right now is a productive time of year to be in Spain, between the beginning of September and the start of Christmas. As your family and ours gather to give thanks around the table this year, we want to agree with the Psalmist and talk of the Lord's wondrous works. Here are a few of the things we give thanks to the Lord for:

On June 1st we received the keys for our new commercial space, one year to the day from when we traveled from Sevilla down to Campo de Gibraltar to establish ourselves.

We spent much of June, and the summer of 2018 for that matter, preparing and improving the space for ministry, which is now beautiful. John Michael, an intern from Trinity Church of Redlands, California, and a mission team from Mission Valley Christian Fellowship in San Diego helped us make months of progress through their work on the locale.

Towards the end of June, we moved our weekly Bible study from our home to our ministry center. Our verse-by-verse study of John's Gospel has been nothing short of a wellspring of blessing to our small group who have been growing week by week through this study. At this time, we also started with our English conversation club, with the assistance of Rona Lee, our summer volunteer. Thankfully God provided a new facilitator once she finished. We are currently hosting a Spotlight English Club.

For over four months now, we have been holding our Sunday worship services, which are often times bilingual. Besides the teaching of God's word, we have a praise time and Sunday school for the little ones. Numbers wise it can be very discouraging, but fortunately this is not our first rodeo in Spain, so we were not expecting hundreds of people to force their way through the door of our ministry center (even though we would have been excited if they had.) What is encouraging to us is that we feel that we are making progress each week with the number of visitors who have come through in four months, as we are in a very busy crossroads for both Europe and Africa.

On August 6-11th, we held our **English Action Camp** at Los Naranjos Christian Camp. It was a beautiful week of living our testimonies and spending quality time with 26 young people. The 13-member team from MVCF did an outstanding job serving the youth. At the camp awards ceremony the parents repeatedly said how they had never seen anything like it before. It was clear that the public testimony of our camp staff was effective.

We barely let the team catch their breath before they were working hard beautifying our ministry center. They worked non-stop for three days and to celebrate finishing their work, they helped us do a **Vacation Bible School** type mini-camp (see photo). We had a handful of North African teens that attended camp come with their families, so it was wonderful follow-up, and we had other people from our community for a total of 53 people inaugurating our ministry center. Praise the Lord!

Having a physical location has allowed us to do more strategic advertising in social media. For the period of Sept. 6th– Nov. 1st, the evangelistic **video-ad campaigns** we made reached over 100,000 of our neighbors in the Campo de Gibraltar region.

On Sept. 7th, ministry leaders from the provinces of Cadiz and Sevilla gathered for the **dedication of our church-plant** in Los Barrios to the Lord (see photo). It was a special time of reflecting on promises and exhortations in Scripture and of prayer for the five neighborhoods of Los Barrios.

Sometimes God shows that He is with us along the lonely road of church-planting. Recently we've had such **God moments**. A Middle-Eastern friend, who collaborates with us, was praying to be able to share her testimony with more people from her background. At the same time JD got a tour of studios where radio programs are recorded for use in restricted access countries. We were so happy that God used us to connect the two and her testimony has already been recorded. Another highlight has been the invitation to preach at one of Spain's oldest active evangelical churches, in the city of La Linea. We thank God for these opportunities to proclaim His Word.

Early November, we had a conference on Creation Science that brought 30 visitors to our ministry center and was an opportunity to invite hundreds of our neighbors to consider important questions.

Remembering friends of this project:

A longtime friend of Sara's family, Carolyn Fleet, who was influential to our ministry and that of Sara's parents, went home to be with the Lord last September. The drawing photo is Sarah Ruth's interpretation of Carolyn going to Heaven. It made us smile and cry at the same time. We are so thankful for the Hope that we have in Jesus.

Praise Reports: We are so grateful for the funds that have been sacrificially given to our building fund.

- We give thanks for the lives of the volunteers who traveled and took time off to help this ministry this summer: Rona, Matt, Jen, Gemma, John Michael, Salud, Elisabeth, Noah, Jacob, Jessica, Shilo, Jan, Rachel, Kathy, Lyle, Abby, Melanie, Jake, Andrew, and Harley.
- We give thanks for the many authentic friendships that we have in Campo de Gibraltar that we did not have a year ago.

Again, thank you for your friendship. Being nine time-zones away can make it hard to catch-up but know that we both value your friendship and are thinking of you.

Serving with you in Spain,

JD, Sara, Sarah Ruth & Abigail Mae