



*"Commit your Way to the Lord; Trust in Him, and He will act.
He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday."*

Psalm 37:5-6

Dear Friends & Family,

Hi! How are you and your family?

(We love when you answer our letters, by the way)

We don't have to tell you that we are living in times of adjustments.

In our last letter in May, we shared how we had to make adjustments to our ministry schedule when we were under home quarantine in Spain for 100+ days. These limitations opened the doors for new forms of reaching, teaching, and meeting. There was a certain day during quarantine where we had to use 5 different teleconferencing applications to meet with different groups: Skype, Microsoft Teams,

Zoom, Messenger Group Calls, and WhatsApp Room.

While we had to indefinitely postpone all of our children's ministries and church services, our Spotlight English Club for adults was able to continue meeting weekly online and we recently began summer break (as that was the consensus of the class), to resume in autumn. We also had fellowship prayer meetings on Zoom. Once Spain's government lifted the "State of Alarm Restrictions" we were able to resume fellowship meetings in our home, finally able to continue our church-plant ministries of Bible-teaching, community prayer and praise times.





Rolling with the punches in 2020:

Psalms 30:5 reminds us:
*"Weeping may endure for a night,
 But joy comes in the morning".*

Sustainable Solutions on the Mission Field.

Across the world of global missions there is the challenge of how to adapt projects as a result of the lack of local funding or lack of local participation. If after some years you don't get these two elements, sustainability of the mission will become a problem and unhealthy dependence is fostered within the target community.

Due to a few factors, global, fiscal, but mainly Covid, we had to make the decision to not renew the rental contract for our ministry center commercial space in Los Barrios. It was an emotional decision for us. (Abby wept over the loss of our church building, as she never had a chance to say goodbye to our church-building due to quarantine restrictions, and JD doesn't even want you to ask how he reacted!).

At the time we had been shut down by the country wide order for a few months, while still having to pay for everything as if we were operating. Even now there are many meeting requirements in place. In fact, it is possible we would be shut down again in Fall. Also, after three years in Los Barrios, we did not have any local people giving consistent offerings to maintain the ministry. We have had quite a few visitors, friends and seekers come and go, and neighbors who have been happy to attend outreach activities like the Kid's Club, but not people who have committed their time or offerings. So even though painful, we felt it was the right decision to not waste the Lord's funds each month on a building we couldn't use. However, when God closes a door, He opens a window. His eye is certainly on the sparrow.

Psalm 30:5 reminds us: *"Weeping may endure for a night, But joy comes in the morning."*

Soon, after we had to clean out our ministry center, and as we told the Lord we were trusting Him to guide our steps concerning the future, we had a local Christian get in touch with us, who heard about how our ministry was temporarily without a home. This believer graciously offered us the use of an office suite for a year. In the meantime, we are trying to prepare the new office space to be able to resume outreach ministries this Fall, hoping that the government restrictions are lifted by the start of the school year. For now, we are enjoying doing a weekly home fellowship with our intimate circle from Los Barrios.



Our Home Fellowship has been up and running again for the last month. We are working our way through the Book of Acts. In Acts 4, our house church learned about the result of being filled with the Holy Spirit: The believers received courage and power to speak up about the word of God and they were extremely generous with their possessions. We also saw the fear that came over the early church when Ananias and Sapphira wanted to serve themselves and not the body of Christ. They dishonestly held back money they claimed to have given to the Lord's work and paid the ultimate price for mocking God. This study with our fellowship has been very beneficial and has provoked great discussions so far.



To the left: a Peruvian lunch with our friends in La Linea. Right: a magnificent Moroccan couscous.

Once again enjoying the marvelous hospitality of friends.

"Oh, taste and see that the Lord *is* good;
 Blessed *is* the man *who* trusts in Him!
 Oh, fear the Lord, you His saints!
There is no want to those who fear Him.

The young lions lack and suffer hunger;
But those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing."
Psalm 34: 8-10



On the left, enjoying a Moroccan Tea Time with Baghrir, Khobz and Nehna Mint Tea.
To the right, a traditional Spanish lunch: Croquetas Caseras, Tortilla de Patata,
Gaspacho and Mosto.
We are so grateful to be able to visit and be visited by friends again.



Left: Sarah Ruth has made fantastic progress in her piano lessons during quarantine and received her second certificate.

Right: Our niece Abril, celebrated her belated high school graduation in San Diego in July. Sara's sisters Rita and Lucy drove her up from Mexico to attend her graduation in California.

Also, our niece Aida, finished Basic Training and Army Medic Training this spring too. We are so proud of the talented girls in our family!



Last day of "school". Our girls last attended a day of school on Friday, March 13th. This is the picture of when they finished the last day of assignments for the year in mid-June.

Prayer Requests:

Please pray for all the transitions and adjustments that we are all living through, for our family, our church-plant, and Spain, that all things good and bad might work towards God being glorified in the end.

Please pray for the recovery of Sara's father, Dr. Alejandro Gonzalez, who has had to be on bed-rest with his foot up even prior to the whole pandemic. We are

praying for the healing of the open diabetic ulcer on the bottom of his foot. We are also praying for him to be encouraged as it must be very difficult transitioning from running a hospital to resting at home.

Please pray for Sara's sister, Dr. Rita Gonzalez, as she oversees the operations of Hospital El Buen Pastor, in San Quintin, Mexico, during this pandemic. One of the doctors who helped in the missionary hospital contracted COVID working in another clinic.

Pray for our contacts in Spain & Gibraltar: For God to accomplish His will with the people we are praying for and sharing the Good news with.



All our love,
JD, Sara, Sarah Ruth & Abigail Mae Bennett