

March 2004

*And day by day... they were ... praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved. (Acts 2: 46-47)*

We want to take this opportunity to share a little bit with you some of the things the Lord has called us to persevere in day by day, believing that as we obey, and lift up his name in worship and in the proclamation of the Gospel, many in France will be saved. We have just returned from a Vineyard leadership conference in England. We were able to bring people from the church plants we are overseeing in Nice and in the North of France. There was also a group from Tours and a couple from Eastern France, near Geneva Switzerland. The theme was Mt 28:19, to go and make disciples. The conference was to challenge and equip. We believe the message was received.

We have found favor with a number of people who are seeking truth and spiritual reality. Jesus said that people who receive us receive Him and the Father (John 13:20). We spend as much time as we can with individuals and families and meals in our home are a key element here. Then we gather people for an "event" whenever possible. Our biggest event recently was our Christmas party, with about 80 friends and acquaintances spending Sunday afternoon tasting Christmas goodies of the baked and spiritual kind as well.

For a while, there was no distributor for Mel Gibson's "The Passion" in France and that has given us the opportunity to share the story in other ways. Two weeks ago, we planned a pizza party and video evening for young people. Out of a selection of films we proposed, they chose the "Jesus" film made by Campus Crusade. Some of their parents came early and witnessed the Passion in a different version.

Our next big "events" are a worship-evangelism concert and a worship seminar March 21 to 22 with David Durham, a musician who has lived in Europe and who sings in French. He is bringing a band from Nashville. We are organizing this to benefit the Church in Nice at large. Churches from across the spectrum have been invited. We will be holding it at a Franciscan Monastery. Please pray that all of the organizational details work out (our main material challenge is putting together the sound system). Please pray especially that the Lord help us to get the message out, that the Holy Spirit draws many people to come, hear the Gospel and give their lives to Jesus.

As for our family, Leah is in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. She is in her second year of German and is in a special school where music is a part of the curriculum. She plays the clarinet beautifully. Her teacher is very innovative; for example, in PE they are learning circus acts. Elyssa is in 10<sup>th</sup> grade (the first year of high school in France). She excels in languages, and besides French and English, she is taking German, Italian and ancient Greek. She has about 8 other classes as well.

Thomas is having an excellent first year at Trinity Western University, a Christian college in BC Canada. He is taking drama and has done lighting for one play and had a major role in another. He is also part of "Drime", a ministry that shares the Gospel through drama and mime.

Until November, Justin was here in France with us, using music to share the Gospel and to gather and build up young people. Now he is spending some time in Southern California with friends and family, like his Grandpa Seely who is in the hospital with bone cancer. He has enlisted in the army and is headed for basic training in Georgia in two weeks.

Besides her ongoing responsibilities in personal evangelism, discipleing and teaching, Sandy is still very much involved in worship ministry though LTC. She is active on the translation committee. She has also written several worship songs herself. She has been teaching English to some local judges and this has led to some interesting relationships.

Alan continues to teach English in a Junior High School. He is also teaching a course at the local university this semester

This is our hearts cry: salvation for people in this spiritually dark and dry land. May the Lord anoint our lives and words, and may He do the same for you, wherever you are called to serve Him.

If you have not been receiving our email prayer updates and would like to, please send us an email at the following address, and we will add you to our prayer list.

We appreciate you and are grateful for the interest you continue to show in our family and ministry. We are especially thankful for your prayerful support.

May the Lord bless you and yours beyond what you can ask or imagine!

Alan, Sandy and family

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