

News from Allen and Deedee

15 September, 2017



Dear family and Friends,

We are back home in Spain after spending **August** in North America. School has started, and things are getting busy again!



At the very end of July, I returned from leading a mission team at a port a few hours up the coast; Josiah got back from his Balkan mission trip; and we all packed up to cross the Atlantic on August 1st.

Throughout our quick trip, we had a wonderful time visiting family in Michigan, Alabama, and Ontario. We were happy to be able to see some friends along the way as well. We were sorry we couldn't see everyone!

Because Josiah is now starting the 12th grade and Phoebe and Thomas are starting the 11th, we made sure to take them around to a great variety of North American colleges and universities. We learned what was similar about them, and what made each unique. Deedee and I also noticed how our kids' responses evolved every time

an admissions officer asked them, "What are you interested in

studying?" *Please pray for Josiah as he narrows down his choices and starts applying for them.* Pray the Lord leads us

through this process with His wisdom!



On August 21st, en route from Alabama to Indiana, we stopped at a restaurant north of Nashville to watch the complete solar eclipse. It was awesome! (Eclipse photo by Dylan Mayfield)



Meanwhile, throughout August, while Operation Transit's summer outreach wrapped up at several ports, year-round ministry continued at others. This year we expanded on last year's innovation of offering a digital version of the Gospel materials on USB thumb drives. These have been very popular for smartphone owners; and since newer cars' sound systems have USB ports, people can listen to an audio Bible that way.

One outreach volunteer in Malaga said he took 25 USB drives with him and stood near the gate where North African travelers passed before heading onto their ferry boat. He gave all 25 away in 3 minutes. He said, "I wish I had more. Afterwards I just started to praise God with tears in my eyes."

Wherever our workers gave away the USB drives, often travelers would not only accept one— they would then go find their friends and encourage them to take one also.

Thank you for praying for us and for our work here! *Please keep praying for the ongoing outreach and follow-up, and for all of our upcoming activities this fall.*

This week, a team representing our Area Office is coming to perform an internal audit on our financial systems and reports. Please pray that this goes well, for us and for the auditors. Two of these team members just completed their training as auditors earlier this year. As this is something I also do, I really want them to gain experience and expertise quickly so that they can do a great job helping us with the many auditing needs of the countries in our area. Operation Transit also needs more local help with finances, logistics, and planning. *Please pray the Lord would provide us the right person for this position.*

Also please pray for Deedee as she prepares for our team's participation in the Worldwide Day of Prayer at the beginning of October, and as she helps Josiah with application forms and fills out our first FAFSA.

The kids are all in *Bachillerato* now, a fairly rigorous two-year program of study that prepares Spanish students for university. Josiah is studying Social Sciences, Phoebe is studying Science and Technology, and Thomas is studying Humanities and Languages. They all have various pre-college entry exams coming up, including PSATS in October for Phoebe and Thomas. Please pray they all adjust well to this next level of schoolwork.

We wish you a wonderful transition to Autumn!

Serving with you, *Allen and Deedee*



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