

Al and Helga Bonikowsky Missionaries to Spain

February 17, 2006

Dear Friends,

Greetings again to all from Irun, Spain. We have had a couple of very busy months, with many activities at the church. The Ben Cure family has finished their visit to the US and have arrived to begin adjusting into the ministry. Ben & Tammi have 5 children with them, Alyssa, Benjamin, Stephen, Nathan and Jason. An older daughter, Ashley, is attending Bob Jones University. Both our families believe it is the Lord's will for them to continue on the ministry here in the Bible Baptist Church of Irun. They are still in the process of learning the language and the culture and we are not sure how long it will take for them to take over the ministry. We have approximately 55 men, women and children that attend one or all of our three weekley services.

Recently my mind was drawn to a verse in Acts 16:14, "And a certain woman named Lydia,.... whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended (paid attention) unto the things which were spoken of Paul." Since our last update, Begoña, whose husband died less than a year ago, has come to know the Lord, a direct result of the witness and testimony of Belén, saved a couple of years ago. Belén was also instrumental in bringing a French friend, Karin, to the Lord. Some time ago we helped her to begin attending a French independent Baptist Church, not too far across the border into France. A week ago Karin was able to see her sister come to the Lord. A couple of weeks ago Joaquin, a Spanish lady with many health problems, also come to know the Lord. She has been testifying steadily to her family and friends and seems to have invited most of them to come to her baptismal service!

We are also praying for the salvation of Belen's mother, Aurora, who has been coming quite frequently for some time. She is having to struggle with her personal life, living with a man she is not married to, and knows that if she accepts the Lord, she will have to terminate that arrangement or marry him. This is very, very common in our society.

The farmhouse has been on the back burner for the last two months as we have taken a break. As the weather improves we will continue to prepare jobs for work crews scheduled to come this year.

Appreciate your prayers for a mission's conference and a men's meeting engagement, both near Madrid, the 24th, 25th and 26th of February, in the church of good missionary friends.

The next verse in Acts says, "And when she was baptized....." We will probably baptize the last Sunday of March and the church will be full. As the Lord brings it to mind, pray for this special meeting.

We are planning an evangelistic campaign for the 17th, 18th and 19th of March with Spanish pastor, Moises Campos. We will inform you of the Lord's blessings.

Helga continues her monthly meetings with a good group of ladies and some of the men join me for our monthly Saturday fellowship time.

God bless,

Al & Helga