

WINTER 2016 // SEVILLE, SPAIN

THE *Gomez* UPDATE

BRIAN & RUTHIE, SARA, DANIEL, ANNA



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

We are back in Texas for a year reporting on our work in Spain. We will be raising support so we can return to Spain and encouraging people to participate in missions. A typical month includes driving around 2500 miles and speaking in 12-15 services. We love to be a part of people saying “YES!” to what God is asking them to do. One woman reported that her daughter realized when she met us that missionaries are just normal people. Now, she wants to go on a mission’s trip! At another service a young lady told Brian, “I believe God is calling me to be a missionary.”

We are also grateful for the offerings and encouragement we receive. One woman reported, “Your picture is on my desk at work, and I pray for you every day.” Wow!

Here is what we are sharing in the churches:

During our time in Seville, Spain your prayers and support enabled us to:

1. Teach pastoral counseling in the Bible school
2. Disciple a group of young adults
3. Lead services and Bible studies in English
4. Do evangelism in and around Seville

I LOVE THIS JESUS

Cristina grew up in Seville where her religious education gave her the impression that Jesus was mad at her. Consequently she wasn’t very interested in learning more about Him. Yet Cristina and her Californian husband, David, came to our English service. We enjoyed inviting this sweet couple to become a part of our family birthday parties, outings, and dinners. As the friendship grew, so did the opportunity to share God’s love. Cristina would share a problem and after praying together she would say, “I love what I feel when you pray for me.” Later she told me she was beginning to pray at home and announced that she wanted to join to the women’s Bible study. Several months later, sitting on the sofa of our living room Cristina prayed to receive Jesus as Savior and Lord of her life. Later while reading her Bible she said with a radiant smile, “I love this Jesus!”

PAINTING A PICTURE OF JESUS

A 19th century Spanish fresco by Elias Garcia Martinez was well known and loved, but deteriorating because of moisture. An elderly church member took it upon herself to restore the painting. The result looked nothing like the original. It was unintentionally distorted. Unfortunately many Spaniards have a distorted image of who Christ really is. Many are like Cristina used to be. They think God is either mad or distant and irrelevant. Our desire is to be a paintbrush in the Master’s hand. May He use us to paint a picture of Christ for the nations to see.





Our budget has increased to expand our work in Spain and we need your support financially so we can return. Would you consider supporting us monthly or increasing your monthly support? You can do so online at www.brianandruthie.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Continued growth and discipleship in the lives of the young adults in Seville.
- David and Cristina and their brand new baby girl named Julia now living in Malaga.
- God will continue His work in neighbors and friends who did not yet received Him as Savior.
- People will say “Yes!” to whatever God asks during our itineration services.
- Strength, safety, and grace for the challenges that much traveling can bring to a family. Brian is often going alone because the kids are school aged now.
- God will raise up a team for the church plant and direct as to exactly where in the Barcelona area that will be.

WHAT’S NEXT?

The International Church in Barcelona has asked us to come back to help with pastoral care and church planting. Our goal is to return by next summer to Barcelona, Spain where many need to encounter a loving and risen Savior.

FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS:

Sara loves her second grade teacher! She read a chapter book for 40 minutes the other day to find out how it ended. Her expressiveness, her amazing memory and her deep compassion are just a few of the things we love about her. Daniel enjoys learning in his Kindergarten class and comes home every day with great behavior reports. He played flag football with his own daddy serving as assistant coach. He not only looks like Brian, but his tender heart and readiness to serve others remind me of Brian. Most importantly, Sara and Daniel both love Jesus! It is delightful to listen to their prayers each night. Anna keeps us all smiling. She’s a little parrot repeating new words every day and a little monkey climbing chairs, tables, anything! She twirls and lifts her hands to music any chance she can. She is already 19 months old!

We look back with gratitude for God’s faithfulness during our time in Seville and His provision during our transition back to Texas. We drink deeply of our time with family and friends storing up new memories. All the while we are anticipating God doing even more that we can ask during the last half of our itineration and in our transition to Barcelona.

Love,
Brian, Ruthie, Sara, Daniel and Anna

