



Moerman Mission Update – August 2009
OC Europe Area Director



“The Gospel for Every Person and a Church for Every People”

“I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had absolutely no other place to go.” - Abraham Lincoln

Dear Praying Family, Friends and Supporters,

The *Psalms* bring comfort and hope in times of trouble. As I write, two dear friends’ families are holding fast to the assurance God gives: *The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their cry. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. (Ps 34:15, 18)*

Long time friend Ken Fletcher, whose life was celebrated yesterday after his sudden and unexpected passing from cancer recently diagnosed, and OC teammate Jesse Morales, who has struggled with ALS for the past year, now in his final days here on earth, have both faced their illness with the certainty that when life here is finished, they would be in the Presence of Jesus, loved, forgiven, accepted because of his grace, worshipping him. Paul encourages us, in light of this hope which we have in Christ Jesus: *Therefore my dear brothers (and sisters), stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain (v. 58).*

Jesse’s passion to share Jesus has always challenged me. Even while he can no longer speak, he is still leading people to Jesus. His daughter writes: *Our family has been extremely blessed by dad's caregivers. Last night, he thanked Sonia for all her help with him. Through tears she said, "No, thank-you. Because of you I have this new life." You never know how God is going to work. In December, God prompted Dad to share the gospel with Sonia and she accepted Christ into her heart. In February, Sonia shared the gospel with the newest caregiver Nella and she accepted Christ on her second day. When visiting Portugal last month, Nella shared the gospel with her sister who accepted Christ who then shared the gospel with her brother who accepted Christ. There's been a whole lot of God-calling, gospel-sharing and Christ-accepting and I am blessed by seeing how he is at work through these circumstances!*

My interest was peaked, because we are noticing the Lord is drawing a number of Brazilians to our team in Portugal, an answer to prayer. God’s Spirit is at work in Portugal. Our team right now is just one couple, Luiz and Arlete Castro, but 3 more have applied to join the team, and another 5 couples are in conversation with Castros. There is growing unity in the evangelical church, and Global Mission 2015, a church planting movement especially focused on 42 cities without a church initiated by the Portuguese Evangelical Alliance, is gaining momentum.



Brazilian teammates, Luiz and Arlete, in Portugal.

Please Pray for Portugal:

- For additional team members to strengthen the team, and for the Castros as they give leadership.

- For the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, who is opening the eyes of many, freeing them from traditionalism, and bringing them into personal relationship with Jesus,
- Pray for Global Mission 2015 and those leading it, for it to result in planting thousands of new churches

Ramadan: Ramadan, a month of prayer and fasting for Muslims, the holiest of Islam's four holy months is August 22 - September 20. It is viewed as a time for spiritual reflection, prayer, doing good deeds and spending time with family and friends.



Muslim woman at a Worthing area beach

Ramadan is also largest ongoing international prayer focus on the Muslim world and we invite you to participate. 30-Days International produces a **"30-Days of Prayer for the Muslim World"** prayer guide to assist. Please consider asking your church to arrange for copies, or have a digital form emailed to you from www.30-days.net/resources/email/

Please continue to seek and deepen your friendships with Muslims among your associates and neighbours, living the grace of the Lord Jesus among them. May the Lord give ever greater revelation of Jesus to more and more Muslims as they seek deeper spiritual understanding

during Ramadan.

Thanksgiving: The *Summer in the USA* outreach to Basque students had 99 participants, with very encouraging initial results, including a few dramatic conversions, very positive feedback from parents on their students' return, and genuine spiritual interest throughout the summer.

- Please continue to pray for the students, and our team, as they follow-up with students and families. It is especially challenging for those who have made commitments to Christ to return to their extremely tight social groups.
- Pray also that the Lord will begin a "people movement" to Christ among the Basque, where many in a social grouping decide together to become Christ followers.

Global Church Planting Network: Plans are progressing well for this initiative in India in February, 2010.

- As invitations go out, please pray that the Lord will bring those who are actively involved in accelerating church planting in their region.
- Pray for Murray and other organizers as they plan the program and logistics
- Pray also for leaders for each region – for unity, coordination of CP efforts, and greater effectiveness in reaching the unreached peoples living in each region.

Family News: Our hearts are full of gratitude for the time we were able to spend with our children and little grandson. They are so good about making space in their busy lives when we are around. Highlights were time spent with Chris, Julie and Mel at a cabin on Nelson Island; dinner with Jordan and girlfriend Kaylie; Ben's brief visit from Grande Prairie; lots of cuddling time with [Canaan](#) including his first trip to the beach on one of Vancouver's hottest days on record (along with Mom and Dad); interactions with our ever gracious hosts, Neil and Tracey Zandbergen while in Canada; and the gift of a brand new *comfortable*



Carol enjoyed several days on Nelson Island with Chris, Julie and Melanie.

bed – thanks to one of our faithful supporters (said to be a tradition in her family that new grandparents get the gift ☺).



*Our first "three-generation" picture:
Murray, Matt and Canaan*

Murray has an elevated PSA reading, and will be scheduled for a biopsy as soon as possible now that we are back in England. Please pray for healing and a return to normal levels. We praise the Lord that he has been regaining strength following his year-long bout with polymyalgia rheumatica, and is now off steroids completely. (We must be getting old, with all these prayers focused on health!!).

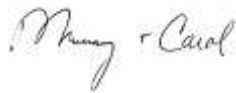
Please pray also for our dear friends and co-workers in the kingdom, the Fletcher and Morales families, as they grieve their loss of father, husband, grandpa, and for the many friends whose lives have been enriched through knowing these godly men.

Thank you for Praying: Thank you once again for standing with us through your prayers and gifts. Your prayers are instrumental in releasing the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives, as well as the lives of those we seek to touch through our ministry. Anything accomplished happens only through us together with you and the Lord.

If you are able, please join us for an evening of personal sharing and prayer at the Ritchie's (604-942-6615) **Friday, August 7** and Friday, **September 11** at 7:30pm (PST) - or just print this update and join us in prayer from where you are! May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace (Rom 15:13).

With much love in Christ,

Murray and Carol



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