The Nelsons in Paris



Paris, 19th March 2025

Dear Friends,

At the women's bible convention on Saturday, we studied Psalms 42 and 43. What a joy to see how Jesus lived and fulfilled those Psalms, hoping in God even through his death for us. The emotional richness of the Psalms and the hope found in Christ were precious comfort in our hearts as we learned of a tragic event that afternoon affecting several of our close friends. What a privilege to have the words – God's words – to face and name and process complex emotions in this broken world. Please pray we would be able to share that comfort with those who are suffering, and that God would be glorified.

Praise God for his grace to us the past few months:

- *Transmets la Parole*, 24-25 Jan was an excellent time of teaching and training with 90 women. I particularly enjoyed co-leading the workshops on reading Mark's gospel with a non-Christian friend. The ladies seemed very motivated, do pray we would all have opportunities to do that soon.
- The **baptism service** on the 2nd of February. Tim and Natacha's testimonies were wonderful to hear, and there were loads of guests, including work colleagues, school and university friends, and family. Pray they would want to know more, and that the Lord would root Tim and Natacha securely in Christ.
- A very encouraging trip to Cedar Springs, **Knoxville** in February, where I was privileged to meet many wonderful brothers and sisters and to share about what God is doing in Paris.
- The *Chrétiennes Engagées* day (mentioned above) on 15th March was our biggest ever, with 380 women, excellent bible teaching and rich gospel conversations.
- The **Journée 2T22 in Strasbourg** on March 8th was an opportunity to spend a day with about 40 young men and women thinking about full-time ministry.

Please pray with us :

- During the coming month I will have a French woman, **Attalia**, with me for an **internship** as she pauses her job to complete the Cornhill Training Course in London. Please pray for her as she trains for ministry.
- People asking for **baptism**. I don't remember ever having this many people at once preparing for baptism and thinking it through. The Lord is blessing us with the privilege of walking with such a variety of young disciples! Currently at least 5 are somewhere in that process. If circumstances permit, on the **30th March** we will perform a home/hospital baptism of a woman who joined us about a year ago and who is in final stages of cancer. Please pray for the testimony to her family and carers, and that it would be a beautiful strengthening and clarifying of her standing before Jesus, assured of his forgiveness and eternal welcome.
- Ternes church holds its **AGM on the 29th March**, an opportunity to involve the members in thinking through finances and also projects and goals for the coming months. Please pray for peaceful and constructive discussion and for it to be edifying and encouraging for all, especially the new members.
- On the **5th April** I am speaking in **Lyon** for a women's bible day conference on a biblical theology of rest.
- The same weekend **5th and 6th of April**, Lucie and Alex are both performing in **Marc l'Expérience**, an immersive play covering all of Mark's gospel. They are busy memorising a lot of Mark (brilliant!) and also inviting friends to attend. Please pray for this wonderful opportunity.
- On **Saturday 19th April** we are organising our **Easter family event**, on the theme of losing/finding our way. There will be lots of orienteering type games, followed by a talk on the road to Emmaus encounter with the risen Jesus. Please pray for local families to come and for an excellent time together, with good discussions at the brunch afterwards.

We are so grateful for your ongoing, persevering, joyful partnership with us. The family are all well and looking forward to being together for a week or two before Easter. Please pray particularly for me, that I would be renewed in my love for the lost in Paris and not give up in holding out the gospel to long-term friends and neighbours.









With Attalia; interns deep in discussion at the retreat; the invitation for the Mark Drama; women at the TLP training weekend; the 2T22 day, helping young people think through full-time ministry.

