



# Joel & Jennifer

## News from France

### HELPING TO FULFILL THE GREAT COMMISSION, by equipping leaders & churches

#### Why have You forsaken Me?

One of the most dramatic cries in all of human history. God the Father had to turn away from God the Son in this darkest hour because our Savior took upon Himself my sins and yours. A precious moment for 40 of us commemorating this immeasurable sacrifice last night. Saturday morning, a team of 6 from our church went out to ask people downtown what they believed about Easter and the resurrection. Inspiring conversations! May your Easter weekend be rich and edifying! **He is risen!**

#### Field Leaders' Meeting in Spain

I loved this time of fellowship & laughter, sharpening each other, hearing about God's work in other countries, sharpening our vision and strategy. One of our focuses was growing in leadership skills. I was impressed by how much humility is such an essential component in our journey to become Christlike leaders. There's room to grow in my life 😊 "To improve is to change, so to be perfect is to have changed often." W. Churchill.

#### Coaching training and getting trained

"The workshop gave me the keys to better help those around me. It leads us to examine ourselves first and rethink the way we help and love others." This is one of the many testimonies of our last cohort.

15 months ago, I wrote "It is not easy to build a plane while flying it," and commented, "If your vision does not scare

you, it is that your vision and your God are too small." Our team of 4 trainers was preparing the rest of the training toward certification while facing scary challenges such as new requirements. We have turned a corner by God's grace! We have also made progress in developing webinars, mailings, and making the training known. We have an interactive group where past students can coach each other and the dynamic is slowly picking up. Some in the group even organize group coaching practices.

Workshops also give me opportunities to build support relationships with others in the ministry: I coached several of our participants through difficult situations. Another benefit for me is to keep receiving training and grow my own skills. This has greatly improved my relationship with others. My wife could tell you 😊. I just finished a course this week.

#### Bible Institute

I just completed teaching "theology and practice of ministry" to 6 students of the Bible Institute this week. One of the case studies they worked on was: Identify unhealthy beliefs that led a missionary to burnout and then examine your own unhealthy beliefs to reframe them biblically. One of the young ladies said at the end "The principles in this course are needed for everyone in the church."

Because He is risen,

*Joel for both of us*

### PRAYER REQUESTS

- ❑ Many church visitors: Salvation and growth.
- ❑ Instead of losing our parking, we have more. Not sure for how long. Still pray for a new building (more space needed).
- ❑ Coaching and counseling Christian leaders
- ❑ 2 couples are planning to join our mission's team later this year in the outreach of a community café: JD & Hannah (pray for support), Eric & Brenda (pray for smooth transition).

### IN PICTURES



*Top: Field Leaders' Meeting in Spain  
Bottom: Jenni's sister & family visiting and playing our favorite game in our home last month (Settlers of Catan)*

### CONTACT INFO

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