



WALKING BY FAITH 2020

*“A man’s heart plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps.”
Proverbs 16:9*

To say that this year has been full of surprises would be an understatement! None of us could have predicted what this year would bring as we made our New Year’s resolutions in January. We began this year excited about what God would do through our partnership with International Media Ministries, never imagining that just a few short months later God would turn all our plans on their head.

In our last letter we mentioned the strict quarantine that we were experiencing here in Spain. It lasted for over three months, and during that time of isolation and decreased activity we had a chance to step back, hear from God, and reevaluate our lives and ministry. Adjusting to parenthood and how it looks on the field, unresolved issues from leaving Russia, and the culture shock inherent in a new country had taken their toll and contributed to a very difficult adjustment to Spain, but slowly we realized that IMM also wasn’t a good fit for our new family, and that God must have another plan.

God has confirmed that we are supposed to be in Spain, and we now see how God used IMM to bring us here, and has used this time to prepare us for the future. We had our plans and ideas, but God continues to direct our steps. And this time has been fruitful! Together with you we were able to bless this ministry and further the Gospel. We participated in the completion of both the “Women of the Bible series” and “The Heritage Project”, led the building remodel and the reorganization and upgrading of technological components essential for future ministry, as well as provided them with some greatly needed equipment. We still believe in what they are doing, and are honored to have been a part.

Our focus now has turned to achieving fluency in Spanish, continuing to build relationships in the community, and for Kirk, completing his coaching certification. He has currently completed all the required classes for certification, and has achieved the 2nd level of A/G coaching. His hope is to complete the final level by spring and apply for certification with the International Coaching Federation, which will open many more doors for ministry. Kirk has already had so many opportunities during these uncertain and confusing times to coach our colleagues, who are facing unprecedented challenges in their ministries during ever changing COVID regulations and restrictions. He has been able to both encourage them, as well as help them to determine their next steps.

In addition to coaching, Kirk has re-enrolled in language school and is continuing to progress towards fluency, while I, Karla, have kept working with my private tutor a few times a week. In order to be effective in another ministry, we will need to be fluent in Spanish, which was a strong desire of ours from the beginning. So, leadership has given us through the spring to attain fluency and transition to a new ministry team. Stay tuned.....and please pray with us for the right fit for our family, a place where each one of us can thrive and use our giftings to reach the lost individually and as a family. There is so much need here in Spain, and we covet your prayers for God’s direction for our next steps.



Kirk on a coaching call.

LAYING FOUNDATIONS

(LITTLE BY LITTLE)



Despite ongoing restrictions and ever-changing regulations, I, Karla, have continued to build relationships with the people God has brought into our lives through language study or the kids' school and activities. I sense that my friendships have been deepening, and my Spanish improving through our various outings this summer and fall.



As these friendships deepen and the number of acquaintances widen, our responsibility and desire to share Jesus with them continues to grow, as well as a burden to see a church planted in our community. I've grown increasingly aware that our experience ministering in Russia has not prepared us for the personal evangelism required here in Spain. In Russia, God used me, and later my husband, to encourage and equip believers to reach their neighbors through various tools such as Sunday school, Royal Rangers, and media ministry. But, here in Spain, God has been opening our eyes more to the need for personal evangelism, and His heart for the people of Spain, many of whom are acquainted with religion, but haven't met Him personally. So, our hearts have turned to intercession, and during the long summer months, God led me to the On the Red Box ministry based here in Madrid. If you find evangelism difficult, or realize that you lack needed tools to share Jesus with others, I highly recommend going through the courses that ontheredbox.com offers on evangelism. They are available in both English and Spanish, and are thought provoking and practical.

Please pray with me for Rebeca and Veronica, my Spanish teacher, and their families. I feel that these relationships are reaching a point that I can share more about our faith and hope in Jesus. We now need to be more careful though about what we share on social platforms, for we don't want to violate the trust of our new friends. However, we do covet your intercession for them, as we know it is the Holy Spirit who draws and convicts of sin unto repentance.



Kids on the first day of school.

While Kirk has been mentoring global workers using his coaching skills, I've been blessed to encourage and mentor some journeymen (new term for MA's in Europe) here locally. I've enjoyed it immensely, and it is something that is possible to combine with motherhood. My kids love getting to know new people. I've also been encouraged by a few opportunities to walk alongside some Russian speaking cross-cultural workers. This has been my vision from the beginning of my missions call. I believe that these are just a taste of what God has for us in the future. *Thank you for being a part of our journey.*



PRAYER & PRAISE

- PRAISE - God continues to bless us through you. Thank you for continuing to give by faith in these uncertain times.
- PRAISE - The kids are thriving in school this year despite all the upheaval. Their Spanish is greatly improved.
- PRAISE - Kirk hasn't needed botox treatment for his migraines since January. God heard your prayers.
- PRAISE - Both kids' ear tubes were removed in June, the first day available for non-emergency surgery. Kaleb's eardrum has healed, and Katelyn's is healing normally. Results on their hearing will be after Katelyn's heals completely. Prayers appreciated.
- PRAY - Continue to pray with us for language acquisition, that God would quicken our minds and tongues.
- PRAY - God's direction, blessing, and wisdom as we continue to walk by faith into the ministry He has prepared for us.

CONTACT US

Stateside Address:
3098 County Street 2770
Cement, OK 73017

email: kirk.ford@agmd.org
VOIP #: 405.225.7012
AGWM Account #:
2733657

TO GIVE ONLINE

Visit our website at www.nexusministries.org. Along the top you will find links to sign up for our newsletters, make a commitment or support us financially.

The giving link will take you to our page on the A/G giving website. You can choose to give either a one time gift, or at the bottom of the page you can choose to set up a recurring gift.

TO GIVE BY MAIL

Mail a check to AGWM at 1445 N. Boonville Ave.; Springfield, MO 65802. Make sure to put our name and account #2733657 in the note portion of the check.