



The Mustard Seed – June 2011

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Transitions

After considering Spain our “home” since 2000, our family is transitioning back to Canada. The winds of change are blowing!

For some of you, this may be news. I (Jacob) am really sorry about the lack of communication through written form over the past months. I’ve been keeping people updated as much as possible via email, but have not been as faithful with paper letters. In this letter, my desire is to clarify our decision-making process, and some of the factors that led to the conclusion that our next phase of ministry will find us in Ontario, Canada.

Background to our decision...

Karen and I joined World Team in Spain in 2000. Since that time we have greatly enjoyed the ministry here, along with many challenges and struggles. Through it all, we have made a lot of friends. The work itself has seen us sharing Christ’s love to many, building up believers in their faith, and sharing in the context of close friendships, small groups and church settings. For the past 5 years, I have led the Spain Team in the role of field director. Through it all, God has proved faithful, over and over again! He truly is good.

In 2007-2009, our family spent 2 years in Canada working on developing a new way of doing life together. During our time there, we believed that God still had things for us to do in Spain. Yet, as we prepared to return in the fall of 2009, we had a sense that we might be coming to the end of our time in Spain.

Decision Making Process

In December, 2010, we wrote to a group of supporters, family and friends, asking for specific prayer as we considered our next phase in ministry.

In January, 2011, we interacted with the group of supporters we’d written in December. We also spoke directly with our team in Spain, and with World Team leadership. We’d sensed that God was continuing to move us back to Canada, but still had no clear sense of what we were called to do. I tendered my resignation as the Field Director, allowing for leadership transition to take place before our departure in June, 2011.

In January, I took part in a mobilization workshop for World Team Europe members. That week, Susan Best, the workshop facilitator, indicated that she’d been praying that God would direct someone from the European region to join World Team in mobilization (recruitment) in North America. As we considered this, it became evident to us and to others within World Team, that God could be opening that door for service. Bill Allan, our Canadian Director, encouraged me to pursue this option.

Now, as we transition back to Canada, I will be working for World Team through our Canadian offices in Mississauga. My responsibilities entail mobilization as well as training. In addition to my involvement at the Canadian office, I desire to make 2 trips per year back to Spain, in order to leverage the relationships we’ve developed there for the continued extension of God’s Kingdom. This will depend to an extent on the wishes of the newly formed leadership in our Spain Team, and, of course, finances available to make the trips. That’s an item of prayer!

Funding

How will this be funded? As our family moves back to Canada, we continue to depend on the financial support of individuals and churches. While the level of ministry funds needed may differ, our ministry funds and salary will be completely dependent on the ongoing financial support of our constituency.

For this reason, we request that you consider maintaining your support for our new ministry focus. Please prayerfully consider this request. I desire to care for my family as best I can, and I need God’s help to trust Him to continue to provide for our needs. Thank YOU to the many people who have sustained regular support over our years in Spain. And thank you for considering your ongoing support of our new ministry. We so appreciate your faithfulness over the many years that you have faithfully held us up through your gifts and prayers.

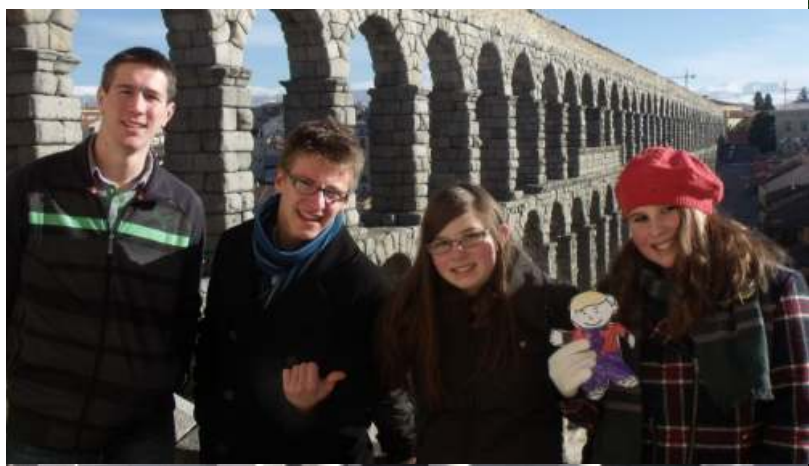
If you have any questions about the future steps that we’re taking, feel free to let me know!

Serving for His glory,
Jacob, Karen, Megan and Carly

Visit our website – www.gintersinspain.org for regular updates and photos!



MEMORIES SPAIN 2009-2011





June 1, 2011

Dear Friends of Jacob & Karen,

As you are aware Jacob, Karen and the girls will be transitioning back to Canada from ministry in Spain in mid July. This has not been an easy decision for them but the Lord has confirmed this move to them through several means.

As missionaries we must always be willing to serve as the Lord leads. Missionary work is not based on geographic location, rather serving where God leads. For many years Jacob and Karen have served faithfully in Spain. Now the Lord is moving them to a new ministry location – Canada.

We have asked Jacob to be involved in our *Mobilization* and *Church-Link* ministries in Canada while maintaining contact with our European fields. This would involve Jacob developing and strengthening our mobilization efforts, developing our relationship with supporting and partner churches in Canada and continuing to serve the Spain field and or other European fields on an intermittent basis. Jacob's field ministry and leadership experience have prepared him to serve in this new ministry. Becoming intentionally facilitative in ministry will help others as they move through the process to join World Team and serve on one of our fields.

Please be in prayer for Jacob and Karen and for the girls as they transition back to Canada and settle into life, ministry and school here. Please continue to support Jacob and Karen financially. As with all World Team missionaries Jacob and Karen must raise all their support for ministry and living expenses as World Team is a faith based mission agency.

I want to thank you for your faithful partnership with the Ginters over many years in Spain. Your partnership with World Team in this way has contributed to God's kingdom being extended through the lives of many who have come to know Him!

If I can be of further service to you or you would like to know more about the Ginters ministry please feel free to contact me.

In Christ,

Bill Allan
Executive Director