

Bill & Therese Williams

March 2014



THE LORD'S BLESSINGS IN THE NEW YEAR!

So much has happened since the first of the year... I won't have enough room on this page to show and tell... so for the first time in our 27 years as missionaries, I will be sending two pages full of information and photos.

I will pick up with the "not-so-good news" where we left off in our December prayer letter. Our co-workers, Valentin and Laura, have had to return to live in Madrid. On December 22nd, we held a special service to give them and their children a good send-off. Even though they are only three hours away, it was difficult for our small congregation to let them go. Christmas was especially difficult for Therese and me since we have grown so close to this family, and we were all alone this past holiday season.

Nevertheless, the Lord has encouraged us several weeks into the new year as I received a phone call from a fellow missionary - pastor of a church in Salamanca, several hours to our South - informing me of the soon arrival of two families to our area who would be visiting our church.



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One family, Hector and Isabel and their two grown children live 25 minutes away and have faithfully attended our services since the middle of January. This family first came to our church in Leganés (Madrid) over ten years ago where we led them to the Lord and baptized three of them. Several years later, they moved to this area. They are presently members in the church in Salamanca, but will be joining with us in the near future.

The second family moved to this area the first of January. Juan and Pilar have two children. Juan has signed a contract as a machine mechanic with a factory here in Palencia. He has been saved for four years, and Pilar came to Christ a little over a year ago.

The photo above is a Sunday service we held on the 16th of February with these two families as well as the family of Valentin who came up to visit with us. This was a high attendance of 16 in our one year-old work. In this same service, we announced the engagement of Jeffrey and Carmen who have set a date for their wedding in September. As you can see by this photo, our congregation has become too large for our living room. I wrote in our December letter that our plans were to look for a meeting place in the spring. That plan was moved up a couple of months; and after several weeks of searching, we found a small store-front building our small congregation could afford as well as adequate for our needs for the next couple of years. It is located in a nice neighborhood a short distance from our apartment. We just signed a rent contract and after much needed renovations, hope to hold our first service in the building by the middle of this month. Nevertheless, we are encountering huge expenses we weren't counting on such as the electrician who is charging us over \$700 just to inspect the installation of electricity and present the required forms to get the electricity turned on. This expense is in addition to the expense of furniture and other normal expenses to get a new work going. Any financial help you might be able to help us with would be greatly appreciated. We ask for your prayerful support in this phase of the new Baptist work here in Palencia, Spain.



THE BIBLE MEMORY ASSOCIATION OF SPAIN

For over a year now, I have been writing about a new ministry that we started here in Spain called “Asociación para la Memorización de la Biblia”. It is patterned after the old Bible Memory Association of several decades ago, now renamed Scripture Memory Fellowship located in Missouri. Our first year, we translated into Spanish and formatted the first seven memory books. Each book follows a theme and has 12 to 15 lessons of verses which develop that theme. Last year, over 300 participants from 12 churches memorized together over 20,000 verses. This year, we have translated and printed ten more memory books and 442 participants signed up from 20 churches. Last Sunday was the first day of recitation in churches all over Spain of the verses memorized in lesson one. The brethren here are excited about memorizing the Word of God together. The photos below, together with their respective explanations, will be a blessing to inform you through pictures of the Lord’s blessings on our churches through the memorization of his Word. Even though it is in Spanish, more information can be found at www.AMBiblia.com. My prayer is that American churches as well, will once again get excited about hiding God’s Word in the hearts of their members.



Quality control volunteers who inspected most of the over 500 books that were printed.



A few of the memorization books. From left to right... *Stepping Stones in the Christian Life; Prayer, and Joy in the Lord*



Pastor Harry in the church in Leganés listening to the recitation of the verses of the first lesson.



A Sunday School teacher in Leganés listening to the verses of several of his young people.



Therese listening to the recitation of the verses in the first lesson of Araceli, one of the ladies of our church here in Palencia.



A Sunday School teacher who is one of the recitation monitors in our church in Leganés. Each church appoints a monitor for every four participants.

As you have seen by this lengthy letter, the Lord has tremendously blessed our ministry in the first two months of this new year. And through your prayers and financial support, you have had a large part in these blessings. Please, continue to uphold us in prayer as we labor together in his vineyard! Thank you for your faithfulness to our ministry!

Serving Christ together,

Bill & Therese!

**Thank you for
your
faithful support!**