

Alvarez Family

Missionaries to the Basque Country, Spain November-December, 2022



Dear Brethren:

Greetings from the heart of the Basque Country! What an end to the year the Lord has given us! People being saved, our Missionary Teen Retreat, our daughter Andrea's wedding, and the amazing opportunity of having with us our beloved grandchildren,

which we hadn't seen in nearly two years. Thank you to all of you that pray for us and give us your economic support that we might be able to press on in this wonderful work in this corner of the world.

Church



The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation, and this powerful truth has not changed. For one whole month I preached about the Gospel; each Sunday I would

present before the congregation what the Scriptures say about the good news given to humanity by God. It was wonderful to see how this powerful truth still stands! Each weekend we witnessed someone being saved, Manuel and Judith among them, a couple that was saved and is coming faithfully to church. Another man, Javier, was saved. He has a great battle with alcohol; we are praying that he would stand firm in the Lord.

Men's Activity at Aierdi



A group of men from our church gathered at Aierdi for a special activity. We watched a good movie that speaks about the importance the dad has in the home, after which we had two

sessions of good Biblical teaching. While we watched the movie, a noise that I couldn't identify caught my attention. As I paid closer attention, I realized that it was a man that had been invited by one of the brethren from our church who was moaning and crying almost uncontrollably. Marco could not control himself; it was evident that the Holy Spirit had touched his heart, and no one can resist when the Holy Spirit touches his heart! One of my missionary coworkers took him aside and presented the Gospel to him, the good news of God's love. Praise the Lord for the work of the Holy Spirit. Marco placed his faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and asked him to save him. Since then, Marco is faithfully coming to church, bringing his son with him as well. Pray for Marco's wife. Her name is Carmen. She is still not saved, but we hope that her husband's testimony and the work of the Holy Spirit in her heart will bring her soon to Christ.

Aierdi: Missionary Teen Retreat

After nearly two years of not being able to have our Missionary Teen Retreat, by God's grace this past December of 2022 we were able to carry it out. We had teens coming from Germany, Austria, Portugal, France, the Czech Republic, and Spain. The main speaker was Pastor Mark Campbell and the theme was "The Life of David." It was a great blessing to everyone. Tete and I were also able to teach in one of the sessions. She taught about having perfect peace and I taught about how different people in the Bible reacted when they were under pressure. Praise the Lord for a wonderful retreat!



Women's Retreat

Once more Tete was invited to teach in a women's retreat that was carried out in Girona, Catalonia. This year more women came. As a matter of fact the ladies organizing the retreat had to say no to a group of ladies that wanted to assist because there was no more room. The Lord once more greatly used my beloved Tete; the teachings that she shared with the sisters present were a great blessing to them.



Christmas postcards project

This year we have distributed \$2,000 postcards, with the novelty that another sister church and a work that is being started in a town called Hondarribia joined our project. Pray with us that the Lord would use each postcard and the printed message as a testimony of the Gospel in this corner of the world. Thank you, dear brethren, for your faithful prayers and faithful support. Thank you for having accompanied us one more year and for giving us the privilege of being your ambassadors in the Basque Country! May the Lord bless you and prosper you. We will continue pressing forward in the name of the Lord. We have new plans for this year and a great desire that our lives would be used more than ever for the advance of the Lord's work everywhere the Lord allows us. Let's remain faithful, with our eyes fixed on Christ!

**Because He is worthy,
Juan & Tete Alvarez, Basque Country, Spain**

Salvation and transformation



Jon was a young man like most; in a society in which God is a myth and where everyone lives for themselves, Jon lived as a victim to alcohol and drugs and had a hopeless future. Praise the Lord one day Jon heard the Gospel, was saved and now his life is a testimony of God's grace. It was specially exciting for me to hear Jon's testimony on Sunday, to see him standing there, reading some verses from the Bible to the congregation and encouraging the brethren to remain faithful to the Lord. Everything is by grace!



Manuel and Judith came to church one Sunday morning and sat in the far end of the auditorium where they attentively heard the message of the Gospel. At the end of the preaching and after a simple invitation, they came up to me asking for spiritual help. It was touching to see Manuel's contrite heart. With great attention he heard the good news and the Holy Spirit did what was most important: bring conviction to Manuel's heart. Between tears and much crying, Manuel was saved by Christ. In all my years of serving the Lord I had never seen such a contrite heart.

One week later Tete spoke with Judith. She already had some knowledge of the Gospel but she had walked away from the Lord. Little by little the Holy Spirit worked in Judith's heart and she finally understood her need of placing her faith in Christ, which she did. Praise the Lord for Manuel's and Judith's salvation! We are now going to begin discipling them. Help us to pray for them, that they might be willing to make the necessary decisions to live lives that honor the Lord.

There is no doubt that the most exciting thing in the ministry is to see sinners come to Christ and witness how He transforms their lives!

"Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." Philipians 1:6

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