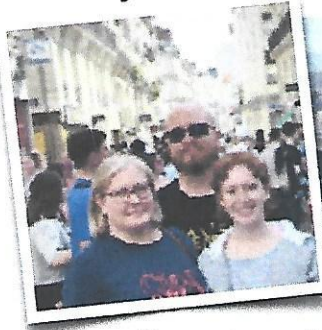


January 2025



The Phillips in France

I want to begin my report by saying thank you for your patience. There was some sickness in our sending church in Orlando which prevented my reports from being sent out last month, so we decided to send both last month's report and this month's together.

The only way I know how to start my report for January is to say that "God is awesome!" While we have been on the foreign field long enough to know better than to boast of what's going to happen and what we're going to do, we have been seeing evidence that Jesus is beginning to build His church here in Centre-ville, Nantes. This month of blessings began with a baptism! Évodie, who has been in our Bible study since we began in October of 2023, made the decision to follow Jesus in baptism and commit to discipleship. We were so excited for her to take this step.

We are also preparing to baptise a young man named Hugo. He is French and from an atheist family, but was led to faith in Christ by his American wife, Lynzee, a couple of years ago before they got married. He is a very humble, diligent, and dedicated young man who is passionate about his faith and wants to see his family come to the Lord. Someone may wonder, "Well, if he's so dedicated, why hasn't he been baptized before now?" You have to understand that this is a huge step. While French people may not be met with physical persecution for turning to Christ as Muslim believers would, many of them will absolutely be met with jeering and criticism. So, it takes longer sometimes for French people from unbelieving families to make that decision to be baptized. We are very proud of him and are looking forward to seeing how the Lord uses this young man.

On January 18, we also launched a second discipleship group. I am steering away from calling them Bible Studies and will from now on be referring to them as discipleship groups. Our Wednesday night group has been bilingual since the beginning, but we now have enough people to split them into two groups. Therefore, our Wednesday night group is in English and our Saturday group is in French. Our goal to keep multiplying disciples and discipleship groups.

With these two groups, we plan to do a "soft launch" in March, where we will begin having Sunday services in our apartment with the people from these two groups. Later this year, Lord willing, we HOPE do a "hard launch" where we find a rental space in town, get the word out, and open the Sunday services to the public. However, we want to make sure that this is done in God's timing. Therefore, in the meantime, we will be using Sundays as a time to train, equip, prepare our people, and pray for God to lead the way. We want to take Proverbs 3:5-6 seriously by not leaning on our own understanding, but by acknowledging God in all our ways so that He can direct our path.

Thank you for your prayers, and KEEP PRAYING!!!

Sent by Calvary Missionary Baptist Church

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