



Rebecca and Jeanne growing and learning

Jonathan enjoying a tractor

Buckshots

The Buck Family

Missionaries to France

Winter 2011-2012

Thoughts

"God has honored this generation as He has never honored a generation before. He has thrown dazzling opportunities before it. He has flung wide open for it the doors of access to all parts of His world and has laid at its feet every possible advantage and facility." — J. Lovell Murray

"I have seen many men work without praying, though I have never seen any good come out of it; but I have never seen a man pray without working." — James Hudson Taylor



It's a New Year!

One year on the field, one year of experiencing God's faithfulness, and His grace to do the work He has set before us. One year being about our Father's business in Lyon, and we have so much to be grateful for. Thank you for sending us, for praying for us, for being about the Father's business where you are, so that we can do the same here.

It's a difficult business, full of challenges, and we often feel clueless, which causes us to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and makes us thankful for your prayers. We're frequently surprised when things turn out well, and then we're reminded again that you are praying for us.

We're also very thankful for the local church in Lyon. It is a privilege to work with soldiers of Christ, who refuse to quit when difficulties without number stand in our way. The new church plant continues to grow, slowly but steadily. Plans for a spring VBS are going forward and a suicide hotline is working. Recently the counselors got a call from a man on a balcony, ready to jump, with his little daughter inside the apartment. As a last grasp for hope, he called the suicide hotline, and the counselor was able to talk him out of his plans. He has just begun attending church. Please pray for him and his little daughter, that they will be transformed by Jesus our King, for eternity.



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"If God's love is for anybody anywhere, it's for everybody everywhere." – Edward Lawlor



Prayer Requests

Please pray for open doors for evangelism and wisdom to share the gospel effectively.

Please pray for those who hear the Gospel to make a decision for Christ.

Please pray for God's direction as we look for a location for the next church plant.

Please pray that Ed's language skills will continue to improve.

Continue to pray for our children's health and safety. We are amazed at how healthy they have been this past year.

One Encourages Another

Last spring, Liba came to the Muslim Outreach center. She had recently left Islam to follow Jesus, and she had some questions. We had a good conversation, and we were able to encourage her. She had many challenges before her – telling her Muslim family of her new faith in Jesus the Messiah, an unbelieving husband... such a person easily finds her way into our hearts and our prayers.



Today she stopped in again, and soon afterward, we were joined by a Muslim woman, Shaisha, who thought we were Muslims, too. She was appalled to find out that we were Christians, and became visibly upset. Then, Liba just calmly told the story of how she came to Christ, and how she has been growing in faith. Liba's testimony really touched Shaisha, because they have some similar experiences. How beautiful is the work of the Holy Spirit, to have Liba here on the day Shaisha came, and how thrilling it is to see how much Liba has grown and matured in such a short time. What a joy to see the children of God walking in truth!!!!

Greater is He who is in us

Prayer walking is easy here – wherever you walk you see reasons to pray! These visible reminders press on my heart for salvation and deliverance to come to this city. Lyon was once called the capital of Protestantism, but when I walk through the city at dawn, I am continually confronted with sin and those who are slaves to sin. Homeless people, prostitutes, addicts and people who believe that they are God – all in need of a Savior. There is so much to do, but God works with us, and we have this hope: that He who calls us is faithful, and He works with us to accomplish His will, one person at a time. In such a dark place, we need to remember that greater is He who is in us, than he who is in the world.



Word on the Street

Today I talked to someone who got mad at me a couple weeks ago. This time, I was able to share my testimony and talk about who Jesus is. The one who was scornful is now attentive and respectful – this

can only be the work of the Holy Spirit. What a comfort it is to know that He continues to work – to convict in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment, while I am not there to see it, and that His work is effective!



We are redesigning the church website to make it more effective in reaching our community. In this media-rich society people visit a website before they ever visit the church, and we can make a connection with them right where they are.



The internet radio station has reached it's 2 millionth listener this month. We are amazed at how many are making a connection through this ministry. You can check it out, too, at www.essentielradio.com.