



## The Mustard Seed – Summer 2008

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### *Dear Friends and Family:*

Welcome to summer in Canada! We are SO glad for the warmer weather! Ok, we've been spoiled by the good weather in Spain!!



*This was actually taken in January!*

### **Growing in Grace and Knowledge**

Our time in Canada has been one of growth and development. We're learning to rely more on the grand Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. We're also learning more about each other. Understanding our differing personality traits has diminished some of the emotional stress we often feel as we relate to one another. In fact, as Karen and I have worked through this year together, we've often commented on how valuable this process could be for any married couple, regardless of their level of marital satisfaction!

As I learn to understand and accept Karen more, I am amazed at God's wisdom and grace in bringing us together. As Karen learns more about my personality, she interprets my actions and reactions with more grace. While our "polar opposite" personalities and gifts complicate life, we've seen how truly complementary we are for each other, both in ministry and in everyday life. Celebrating these differences, we are convinced, will lead to more effective and God-honouring living in our commitment to long-term cross-cultural ministry!

### **Looking Ahead...**

As Karen and I have interacted over the past months, we became more and more concerned that our growth process was not keeping step with our original schedule. We planned to return to Spain in September of this year. However, as we've communicated with our team, with our Canadian Director, Bill Allan, and with David Riddell, our

new World Team International Director, it became clear that staying in Canada for one more year would be necessary and invaluable in working towards our desire to be in Spain long-term. While this sets us back in our plans somewhat, we feel that we've heard the collective wisdom of the wider World Team family, and that God has confirmed this in our hearts. So, we'll be calling Guelph home for another year.

### **A Note from David Riddell**

Jacob & Karen have faithfully served our World Team Spain team for the past few years. They have encouraged and led the team to adopt some very faith stretching goals in terms of seeing a cluster of new multiplying churches established in the next 10 years. This past year, they have been on home ministry assignment and many of you have been able to visit and interact with them. Jacob & Karen have been very honest about the pressures that cross cultural ministry has placed upon their marriage and family. Over this past year they have sought help and support from a number of sources to deepen their relationship and their resiliency in ministry. These new beginning steps of learning how to work in a more united way are bearing fruit in their lives and ministry. Jacob & Karen along with myself and the World Team Canada director believe that it would be best for them to wait another year before heading back to ministry in Spain so that these beginning steps can become part and parcel of their lives and ministry together. We believe that God will use Jacob & Karen in some ongoing leadership role in the future and we will be using this next year to proactively further develop them in leadership. We appreciate your ongoing prayers for them as a couple and for their family. The journey is not easy, but Jesus has promised that He walks with us (Luke 24:15).

David R.

Visit our website – [www.gintersinspain.org](http://www.gintersinspain.org) for regular updates and photos!



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### Now...

You, our prayer and financial supporters, are a vital part of our community. As such, we invite you to call or email us to interact on what we've shared in this letter. We're excited about what God has in store for us. But we also recognize that we've had time to process this while, for many of you, this information is brand new. Please feel free to communicate with us, or with World Team leadership, any further questions, comments, or concerns you have regarding this decision. Here are some important email addresses and phone numbers you may need.

International Director  
David Riddell: [David.Riddell@WorldTeam.org](mailto:David.Riddell@WorldTeam.org)  
011-33-130-31-18-61 (France)  
Canadian Director  
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Jacob or Karen Ginter: [Jacob.Ginter@WorldTeam.org](mailto:Jacob.Ginter@WorldTeam.org), or  
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1-519-400-0012

Once again, while we have not made this decision in a vacuum, we recognize that you have not had the luxury of following the entire process. We look forward to interacting with you on this if you so desire.

### Summer Plans

Our family plans are to travel from Guelph, Ontario to Western Canada. We'll go as far as Vancouver Island, visiting supporters and churches and family in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Although we've been in Canada for a year now, there are still some people that we have not had the privilege of seeing. The next months will remedy much of that! And, further opportunities to visit in the fall and winter will allow for ongoing interactions. But for now, we'll be taking the summer one kilometre at a time!



**Daniela, Mike, and Will Riley**  
- Daniela is studying Spanish  
- Mike is studying theology  
- Will is being Will!

### Please Pray for us!

#### *Jacob & Karen*

- Summer Travels
- Organizing our next year for the most advantageous use of our time
- Relational development

#### *Spain Team*

- New Team-mates, Mike and Daniela Riley, now in language training in Costa Rica – Pray for good language assimilation
- New church plant initiative in Guijuelo – Pray for leadership to develop from the outset
- Spain Team – Pray for our entire team as our extended stay in Canada is felt by each member in different ways

### Thanks so much!

Thank you, for being part of our larger “community of Christ on earth.” We love you! We praise God for you! As we serve in the context of church planting under the World Team umbrella to see communities of believers placed within reach of all, we rejoice that we are not in this alone. We need our team, our church, our family, and our friends. And in the gracious plan of our Great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, we have all that we need!

Sincerely,

*Jacob, Karen, Megan and Carly*

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