

### The Mustard Seed – Spring 2009

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#### Transitions: To Spain!

Once again our lives have brought us to that place called TRANSITIONS! After almost two years of extended home ministry assignment in Canada, the time has come for us to

head back to Spain. And although we still face many uncertainties, we are happy to report that our tickets indicate we depart on August 31, 2009.

It is definitely with mixed feelings that we return: ranging from hopeful expectancy to sadness at leaving. The time was right for us to stay, just as it seems now right for us to return. As the writer of Ecclesiastes penned, 'There is a season for everything under heaven.'

We have greatly benefited from our time in Canada, connecting with family and expanding our home base. It has been a time of renewal, personal & professional development, marriage building and support-raising. We have been encouraged, challenged and strengthened over these last two years.

Now, as we await our departure for Spain, we are asking for prayer, for guidance and direction. We want to dream, and plan for what is to come, making decisions about location and housing and ministry. It is our desire to be holding lightly to those things while all the while holding very tightly to God, trusting him every step of the way.

We also have many tasks to complete here and would ask you to pray for energy and wisdom as we set priorities.

#### Looking to Spain...

Both Karen and I are excited about putting our new skills/resources to good use in Spain! Karen's MBTI training greatly impacted our understanding of each other, and we see huge value in applying this to the various relational levels we enjoy on the field. I also look forward to coaching a variety of individuals, as God opens the lives of those He desires to grow through relationship with me!. In fact, I can see how these newly acquired coaching skills can greatly enhance our discipleship and training processes. That's something to get excited about! Understanding one another and drawing people to be all they can be in Christ reflect some of the value of our learning experiences in Canada.

## Introducing... Juan Carlos Martin Cobano and Teresa Cortes Campos

Juan Carlos is a soft spoken individual, hailing from Andalucia, in Southern Spain. He met Teresa, a vivacious and beautiful Gypsy, (also from Andalucia) at the youth group he attended in Barcelona in his university days. Both felt the call to join a church planting effort in Calatayud when they heard that the Swiss missionary was returning to her home country. I (Jacob) connected with Juan Carlos and Teresa in May of 2006. Over coffee, I invited them to share their story with me. What they shared moved me! Their vision to see the local church established and given over to the responsibility of local leadership, along with their desire to see this small group multiply itself into the surrounding towns pointed to true alignment with the Spainteam vision!

This served as the beginnings of a relationship that eventually led Juan Carlos and Teresa to join our organization, La I.C.E. (The Evangelical Christian Initiative – World Team Spain). Juan Carlos now serves as a consulting member on our leadership team.



Juan Carlos & Teresa

I introduce this couple for the express purpose of soliciting prayer support for them, their family, and the church in Calatayud. We believe this relationship to be strategic in light of our goal to see reproducing communities of believers established in Spain. I invite you to consider partnering with them in prayer as they seek to serve our Great God in Calatayud! You can write to Juan Carlos and Tere by email (Juan Carlos will correspond in English), info@evangayud.com

Again, we **THANK YOU** for your many prayers, for your financial support and your encouragement. We do give thanks to the Lord whenever we think of you!

Blessings, Jacob and Karen



# Yo, Megan Here



A month ago we celebrated the death and resurrection of Jesus. As a part of this great celebration, my church put on a recreation of ancient Jerusalem called Holy Land Adventure. Basically what happened was the entire church was decorated to look like Jerusalem the night Jesus was arrested.

There were five stops. The front gate is where you entered. There was a variety of characters at the front gate, such as a rich young man, a Pharisee and a gossipy girl (that was me). Every once in a while some roman soldiers showed up to keep an eye on things.

After that you moved on to the marketplace where you saw how life was in Jerusalem on a typical day. There were a variety of actors who played shop keepers or just town's people.

After the marketplace you went to meet a roman centurion and he told you his opinion of Jesus. Then you moved on to the synagogue were you met Mary Magdalene who explains a bit about Passover and her view of Jesus.

The final stop was John the Apostle's house, were you met John in person and he talked about his view of Jesus. The tour concluded after this, leaving people with a lot to think about.

My personal experience with Holy Land Adventure was amazing. I got to spend time with my friend, gossiping about pointless things, I ran around the marketplace for a while bothering people, I got arrested by a roman soldier once and even got killed by one of the soldiers three times ©

Overall this experience was incredible and I'm sure that every other participant would say the exact same thing. I know that my sister, Carly thought so too. She had a blast!

