

## France 2.0 Summary | Nov 2013



by David on November 21, 2013 in By David, By Rachel, France

“A man’s heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps” (Proverbs 16:9).

Everyone wants to know. Ok, well not EVERYONE, but many of our friends and family want to know. Do you want to know what you want to know? Here it is: First of all, it’s not about us. Many times in the past, we’ve made it about us and then God gently reminds us that it’s not about us. This trip was difficult in that regard because, on the surface, there are many things about France that could be about us, things other than God’s purposes alone that might draw us. As a result, we may have been overly skeptical, trying to find reasons NOT to go, ways NOT to fit in, difficulties NOT to figure out, and looking for red flags and closed doors left and right. You might say this isn’t the best approach for a mission vision trip, but it boils down to this: No matter who, where, when, why, what, which, or how . . . we don’t want what WE want, we want what our GOD wants. After our time in France, all of the conversations with missionaries and Christian workers, the great times of fellowship with students and volunteers,

and all of the avenues of service we experienced, we feel that God has left this door wide open for us.

“But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as He chose” (1 Corinthians 12:18).

There is need everywhere (even across your apartment hall, neighborhood street or office cubicle, just open your eyes), so why France? Is the need greater in France than here? What about in Africa, Asia or South America? This question reminds me of the comedian Brian Regan’s take on log trucks passing each other on the highway (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5PwMKCNpVic>). We don’t know all of the details of “Why there and not here?” but we are trusting that God knows exactly where we will best fit for His purposes. This is true in the local body of believers as well as in the global body of believers. It’s not so much “Why God?” but “Yes Lord!”.

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest” (Matthew 9:37 & 38).

CMML just hosted a conference titled, “The Challenge Of Europe” (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vVHGNTQmdMY>). This event has come in the midst of a renewed interest in missions in Europe. We believe this is a direct result of God putting it on the minds and hearts of many people to pray for laborers for His harvest there. He is clearly up to something, quite possibly a serious revival! If that’s what we pray for, is it crazy to expect that God will actually do it?! We have been praying for a few years about this and now God is showing us the we might be part of the answer. A missionary in Africa, who many of you know, once said “When you pray, be ready to be the answer to your prayer.” If you’re going to pray for God to send laborers into His harvest, be prepared to be a laborer!

For those of you who like some of the practical details, here are some of the ministry avenues that are currently going on that we may be involved with:

student life at le FEU (info here: <http://www.lefeu.org/grenoble/>)

discipleship / one2one Bible reading

food distribution for international students

facility & grounds maintenance / gardening

local church involvement  
mk and other youth programs  
camps & retreats  
gypsy outreach

Please continue to pray for us as we seek further direction from God in all of the details. We still have a number of people (family, church elders, mentors, friends) to discuss all of this with and many details to figure out as we take the steps God is directing us to take.