

## It's Getting Real! | June 2014



by [David](#) on June 20, 2014 in [By David](#), [By Rachel](#), [France](#), [Reading](#)

**God's Calling to France** – It's getting real! Since our last update at the end of November, God has continued to reveal His will for us in His plans around the world. In obedience to His calling, we are making plans to return to Grenoble sometime in the Fall of 2014 for 3 to 5 years initially. Malvern Bible Chapel is our sending church (we received their commendation to our Lord's work on Sunday, June 8th, 2014) and will provide ministry specific direction and spiritual oversight as an extension of their ministry and outreach around the world. Christian Missions in Many Lands, a faith based non-profit service organization, will serve and support us and our sending church with cross-cultural missions specific expertise. Praise God for His desire to use us, MBC and CMLL for His work in the world, and pray that we would all continue to look to Him for strength and guidance.

**Details on Life in France** – We will be living among and ministering to national and international students from the handful of universities located throughout the city with the Christian organization “le FEU” (an acronym for Foyer Evangélique Universitaire, meaning “fire”). This 40+ year ministry continues to open the door for students to discover the life changing gospel of Jesus Christ and get plugged into a local church. We will be living in the small apartment above the student center located at the edge of one of the larger universities. From that space we will support many of the student ministries including gospel centered outreach events, food pantry distribution, relationship evangelism, bible studies, discipleship, hospitality and local church involvement. God has seen fit to open up the apartment above the FEU student center for us to move into immediately upon arrival! He has also already provided multiple sources of furniture and other household items so we will not have to bring very much at all! Praise God for His faithfulness and provisions so far and pray that He would continue to work out all the little details of things that need to happen before we head out.

**Bible College** – We finished up auditing classes at Lancaster Bible College and even had enough credits to get a certificate! However, even more valuable than the certificate and graduation recognition (which we did not attend) is that we had the opportunity to learn more about God, His Word and our role in spreading His great news to the world! As Paul encouraged Timothy; “what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also” (2 Timothy 2:2 ESV). Praise God for the freedom and opportunity to study His word at a local college and pray that we would be faithful to use what we have learned from wise instructors to bring glory only to Him.

**Language Studies** – We are both well into our second round of French classes at Alliance Française in Bryn Mawr. Already having a university background in French, Rachel is further along and enjoying developing her conversational abilities. I am still learning the basics and building a strong foundation now while I have the chance. Praise God for a great language school “nearby” and pray that God gives us skill in learning and properly speaking a new language.

**Local Church Involvement** – The Missional Community that we hosted and co-lead this past year has come to an end. It was a great time simply spent with others in God’s Word (community) and in ministering to some of the needs of those in the city (missional). For the remaining few months in Reading, Rachel and I are attempting to restart a robust Prayer Meeting at Reading City Church. We meet every Sunday morning to pray specifically for the following meetings

and then the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month to pray for the needs of those in the church. Also, Rachel has been diligent in organizing and hosting a Girls' Craft Night every week which has just recently turned into a weekly Bible study. Praise God for such a wonderful body of believers that care about those in the often neglected city of Reading and pray that we would be faithful in the work He has for us here and now (including reaching out and getting to know our new neighbors even as we pack up to move out).

**Summer Plans** – Lord willing, I will be able to be involved in counseling at Iroquoia's Boys' Camp again this year. It is so much fun and I love spending time with the guys in God's great outdoors! I will also be teaching at Greenwood Hills' Boys' Camp from the beginning of the book of Genesis. Rachel will be "holding down the fort", getting our apartment packed up and setting her business up for our move . . . all while I'm away "relaxing" at camp. Praise God for Christian summer camps and those with a heart and ability to come alongside the campers and pray for open hearts and minds and that I might have Spirit-led understanding and wisdom in studying, handling and conveying the truth of God's Word to them.

Thank you all for your interest, support and prayers in all of these matters. It is all of indescribable value to us. We praise God for all of you and pray that He would continue to reveal His will for your lives and that you would be obedient in following Him!