



JENKINS UPDATE 2021

As you have journeyed with us through our time in Spain, you have discovered with us this country's beauty, both the physical and the historical. We learned about the Spanish people's rich culture and traditions, which are fascinating. We saw God moving and at work both in the Spanish and other people who live here. We have come to love this country. Our hearts are very saddened as we write to you that we are now moving. We saw it coming for more than a year now but didn't really know anything for certain. We can seemingly point to the reasons we are moving; some are very obvious, others not so much. But, with much comfort and hope, we can say that it is the Sovereign hand of God that crafts stories in such a way that doesn't always seem glorious, but it is. Our perfectly divine author includes heartbreak and pain so deep in

our stories that it connects you to the Suffering Servant in unique ways. The Gospel brings us hope and joy, and it is the reason that our family has ever moved anywhere. He is asking us to leave Spain. We know we can trust God through the heartache. One day when we gather in eternity, and we can sit face to face with each other and re-tell our stories that include leaving, losing, sickness, pain, etc. We are certain that it will seem like nothing in the light of His eternal glory.

So, today we hold on to that hope, and we live by faith and not by sight.

What is next?

The Lord allowed us to get in contact with the Evangelical Christian Church (ECC) of Abu Dhabi, which is an English-speaking international church in the country of the United Arab Emirates. (I, Georgie, didn't even know where Abu Dhabi was, it sounded like something from Aladdin). Dubai is the most famous city in the country. ECC was looking for a church planter to be sent out from their church to start a church in an industrial town called Al Ruwais. Ruwais has three oil refineries and a nuclear power plant. There is no official church in this small town of around 20-25k people. However, there are pockets of believers meeting, and some even driving the two hours it takes to get to ECC. The Spirit is at work there. The government has given permission to start a church in Al Ruwais. Wyley will be granted a pastor's visa to accomplish this task.

We were able to travel to the United Arab Emirates in December. Which by the way we found very interesting that the national people are only 12% of the people, making it 88% other foreign people. It really was an accomplishment to finally get there because of all the global restrictions to travel. Before it was said and done, we had taken 4 PCR (COVID) tests. We arrived in Dubai and spent two weeks in quarantine there. Thankfully the quarantine was not very restrictive. What a glamorous city Dubai is; so big and full of everything your eyes and senses can experience at once. It is organized, super international, and very prosperous. We visited two great churches in Dubai and were so encouraged by seeing the Lord at work. It is marvelous to see how God has picked this country for a time as this, to be a light and a hub for missions and outreach in the Arab world. God is bringing unreached people from all over, and they are hearing the Gospel and then returning to their countries with this! This is amazing.

There still are restrictions, and it feels like you are always under "the Eye," but we know how that story ends anyway :)

After that, we got to travel to Abu Dhabi. We were very encouraged to meet (as much as we could because of restrictions) with the church there. It was refreshing to meet with such like-minded brothers and sisters. ECC has been there since 1972 and has been part of planting three churches in towns close to them. They are very missional, and Gospel centered. We were able to travel for three days to visit the town of Al Ruwais.

Expectations are so tricky. We had been told the truth about this small town we would visit, but perhaps by us comparing it to the jungle or even other places we have lived, we had envisioned something quite terrible. Well, in this case, our expectations were met by wonderful surprises. We drove two hours on a wonderful road, seeing nothing but desert on either side. Then, all of a sudden, you come to Al Ruwais is clean, organized, has parks, a mall (even a Starbucks!), a recreation center, and the beach is absolutely beautiful. The believers there have been praying for many years to see a church planted. It was so refreshing and encouraging to meet with some of them. So all that to say, we loved the little town, and if you know our family, little towns are more our thing anyway.

We have realized through prayer and visiting that this job request seems like it was meant for us to take. It really is a miracle. The timing, the requirements, our experience....

This doesn't make the move easy peasy, nor does it take away insecurities about moving to a completely new culture in the desert, but it does bring a breath of peace to our hearts because we recognize the hand behind it all, and it gives us a holy bravery that doesn't come from looking inward but upward.





So where is Al Ruwais?



Yes, it is on the border of Saudi Arabia



PRAYER

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

How can you pray for us?

1. We are grieving. We did not plan or want to move from Spain. This whole process has been very painful, and we see and feel the Lord both healing and working in the depth of our hearts, which we are thankful for. Please pray as we grieve (AGAIN) that we would remain focused on the cross and His praises on our mouth. Pray for our children and marriage as we change locations again. These moves are hard on everybody.

2. The move. There are so many logistical needs for this. Our belongings, travel (COVID just complicating everything), closure, finding our new place, etc.

3. Provision. We are moving to a new area, that is expensive. We have about 50% of the support needed. Please contact us personally if you would like to get involved in giving a one time gift or on an ongoing basis.

If you would like to make a donation you can go to:

<https://nbri.churchcenter.com/giving>

Under the donation amount, please specify: JENKINS FAMILY

Thank you





