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DELUCA family 2COR.1:24

CHURCH PLANTING MISSIONARIES TO THE PEOPLE OF GREECE



Prayer Requests:

- ❖ *Greek language acquisition.*
- ❖ Greeks to seek the Lord.
- ❖ Grace for our kids; Claire @ NEBC; Wisdom for furlough planning.
- ❖ God's clear direction in new church plant location; Effective survey trips to Athens & Thessaloniki; Possible connections with believers.



- ❖ ZBBC- Growth & Edification.
- ❖ The Faros paper to continue to open hearts. Circulation is growing!
- ❖ Resources to outfit a recording studio necessary for the Greek Bible radio station.
- ❖ Salvation- Lena /our Greek teacher & family; Dionysi & Marie; Neighbor- Clare; Gus; Kostas, Vasso & kids; Many church members family/ friends.
- ❖ Michael's residency permit!

Happenings

In October 2015, the Lord secured our long-term ministry in Greece by allowing Joanna & the kids to acquire Greek citizenship. Though our lawyer assured us repeatedly that my residency application was being processed, we became suspicious after 1-½ years with no results. It became apparent we needed to discontinue our relationship with him and hire a new lawyer.

Recently, I went to the Athens Immigration Office with our new lawyer to check my status only to discover the previous lawyer lied to us repeatedly and never filed my residency application. Thankfully, I was able to recover all of my important documents from him. Since no application was made, I learned that my visa has expired and the only way I can apply for residency is to leave Greece for at least 90 days. I can then reenter on a new tourist visa at which time I can make application quite easily (now that Joanna is a Greek citizen). God certainly knew this was going to happen and He is definitely leading us, proving yet again the truth of Romans 8:28.

After much prayer & counsel it has been determined that we move our furlough up a few months to begin in June 2017 and return to Greece in March 2018. Though we're disappointed to be leaving at this time, we're excited to launch into a church plant a year sooner than originally planned. Though I have a long way to go in my language studies they are going very well. I have had several positive opportunities to preach and teach in Greek. We will prepare a short video report that includes some clips of my

preaching in Greek here at Zakyntos Bible Baptist Church.

During our upcoming 9 month furlough we have been counselled by our sending pastor and BIMl field director to continue our focus on language studies with Greek tutors. We will continue with our language studies both here in Greece (via Skype) as well as locally near our home church. Our current tutor has offered to continue language studies at no charge.

We realize many churches may like us to report on the work of our first term but we will be focusing full-time on our language studies. I trust the short DVD report will give you a good update of what the Lord has been doing in our ministry.

For those who really desire for us to come and report, we'd prefer to schedule only single service meetings. We pray your church family will understand the importance of language competency in establishing a new church and allow us this time to hone our skills and recharge for the work which lies ahead.

Though some may think this a trial, we believe God knew all along this is the path He'd have us follow. We'll be making a survey trip to Thessaloniki and Athens in April to seek direction & confirmation on where God would have us begin a new church. We're excited to know that the Lord can use us to plant a church in one of the same cities where the apostle Paul once established NT churches. We ask you to continue to pray with us regarding these events as we make arrangements to store our belongings, arrange housing, and prepare to return to Greece ready to plant a NT Baptist church!!!

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