

M A Y / J U N E 2 0 1 5

# the DELUCA family 2COR.1:24

CHURCH PLANTING MISSIONARIES TO THE PEOPLE OF GREECE



## ONE YEAR LATER...

It hardly seems possible that we've been here a year already. In that year we've moved 3 times, lived in 3 different houses, and have had 3 dogs! More importantly, we've seen God doing amazing things! People saved & baptized, we've discipled new believers, helped lead kids ministries, made incredible strides in learning the language, and built and strengthened relationships with many people. We also know that Greece is home. We no longer say, "...when we're home in America." God brought us here to live and work; to witness Christ and help people find faith in Him so that their joy may be complete too. We believe we'll never feel "at home" anywhere else but here in Greece. Here among the people whom God has laid upon our hearts and love so dearly. After all... home is where the heart is.

## HAPPENINGS

By now, most of you are aware of the events happening in Greece. Many years of corrupt politics and poor fiscal responsibility has brought this nation, and the people, to its knees. There is definitely uncertainty and worry among many. I believe people simply do not know what is coming next. Having dealt with recession and high unemployment for the last 5 years, people are ready for change, but to what? Even more severe austerity measures to comply with the EU? Leaving the Eurozone and its currency with the hope that things will get better somehow? Many people have ideas and opinions but the look in their eyes belies their confidence in them. Greeks must turn their eyes to Christ and open their hearts to Him. Though religion is central to Greek identity, the majority of people lack a true biblical understanding of God and His character. Baptism & good works provide false hope as people venerate icons and "saints" hoping for favour and prosperity. To turn from Orthodoxy is to deny Greek lineage. Please pray that we will be able to show them their need for a personal relationship with Christ rather than the ethnic religion they hope will save them. Only when Greeks trust Christ for eternal salvation, will they truly be

able to face whatever tomorrow holds with assurance of joy and peace.

Due to the current circumstances, Pastor Taki decided to cancel the Kids Bible Camp for July. This was a difficult, but necessary, decision. Voting in Greece is done in your home town/village which mandates travel for many people that will disrupt the work and family lives of many. The economy has also left many of the business owners who support the camp unable to provide the food we have relied upon in the past. Please pray that we will be able to have "Camp Days" for the kids during the coming months so that we can continue to preach, teach, & disciple some of the next generation of Greeks.

Family wise, we have settled into our new house. It is a wonderful & we're blessed to have the owners (Taki & Litza) living onsite. We've all taken to each other & they're open to the gospel & church. We return to homeschooling again in September. We're still waiting on our visas but our lawyer believes they'll be ready soon. I am discipling the teens in church w/ materials from our home church. The kids, (and I!) are really enjoying the time together in the Word.



### Prayer Requests:

- ❖ ***The critical situation between Greece and the EU.***
- ❖ Hearts of the people to soften and seek the Lord.

- ❖ Greek language acquisition.
- ❖ Discipleship w/new believers.
- ❖ *Permanent Residency Permits to be issued by July.*
- ❖ Wisdom in ministry planning.

- ❖ Safety- Korianitis, Dimakos, Sinde & Tsirozidis Families in GR
- ❖ Salvation- Lena /our Greek teacher; Costas; Stephanos; Dionysios; Taki, Litza & Family.

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