

News from Allen and Deedee 26 November 2019

Happy Thanksgiving! We pray you have a wonderful time **giving thanks** to our Lord!

We are very thankful for you, and for your love and support!

As we have heard from some of you, we haven't been clear enough about our relocation to France; sorry about that! It's Because of tax laws and International treaties related to "foreign workers," Deedee and I need to be out of Spain for at least 6 months. (Last time, we spent a year in the USA.) This came at a doable time in terms of Phoebe and Thomas's finishing high school, but at a very inconvenient time for the ministry. We decided to come to France at this time because a lot of my work and several of our colleagues are already here; and because France is the middle country of the three countries where we have our Operation Transit outreaches (The adjacent map does not show all of the 17 ports with ferries to and from North Africa, but it gives you an idea). With the idea that one big move is better than two, it made more sense for us to move house up here long-term, rather than for just a few months.



I am really excited about the staff team meeting we had recently, after Operation Transit's summer volunteers returned home. We got to evaluate all our outreach activities to reach North Africans in European port cities, and we got to plan for the coming year, for each person's ministry specialty.

Our Egyptian teammate, N, is our key leader in port city evangelism, and she also leads our fledgling year-round ministry to North African students in Spain. She and others do ongoing evangelism and follow-up work. This year she is also training three Christian students to be able to share their faith with (and train) others. She has also now developed a Facebook outreach to find (and connect with) more interested students.

Our colleagues from Panama, O and V, are continuing to work with Spanish churches, to help give them a vision for praying for and ministering to their North African neighbors, coworkers, and friends. O and V provide Spanish-speaking congregations with ministry training and outreach opportunities:

- *Mobilizing believers to pray for North Africans*
- *Training church members in how to share the gospel with people from North Africa and the Middle East*
- *Providing opportunities for practical ministry (meeting educational and physical needs) as well as spiritual ministry (evangelism and gospel material distribution)*

This past year, they were able to train 70 Spanish church members in how to share their faith!

The rest of us on our staff team have specific roles giving organization and leadership to the effort, as well as "front-line" ministry responsibilities. A coordinates the overall work, L manages our Human Resources and Leadership Development, I coordinate the Finance and Logistics and help give leadership to the Port Cities team. Deedee leads Prayer (and Crisis Management), and we all help train and lead teams of volunteers.

Together, the 7 of us are called the Port Cities team: we are all Campus Crusade for Christ International staff specifically dedicated to work with Operation Transit and to reach North Africans in Europe with the gospel.

Thankfully, the Operation Transit Partnership is much larger, involving many other like-minded ministries, organizations, and Christian workers. Every year leaders and representatives of these various different mission groups meet together as the Operation Transit Steering Committee. This group provides the overall work with direction, honest feedback, and evaluation. We are grateful for these leaders, many of whom have been involved with Operation Transit for longer than Deedee and I have! This year, we met together just after our Port Cities team met. A lot of exciting things have been happening: please take a look at the annual report on the other side of this page! Thank God with us for what He has been doing through Operation Transit, and **thank you** for helping make this work possible through your prayers and support!

We are trusting the Lord to send us more workers: please join us in praying that 50 out of the 365 people who participated this past year would return next year, and help lead mission projects; and pray that 5 Christian workers would come serve with us for a 3-month internship.

Please keep praying for all of us in this ministry! Pray that we would be like Hezekiah, as described in **2 Chronicles 31:21**: "In all that he did in the service of the Temple of God and in his efforts to follow God's laws and commands, Hezekiah sought his God wholeheartedly. As a result, he was very successful" (New Living Translation).

Please keep praying for us and for our family as well, as we continue to adjust to this year's big changes.

We thank the Lord for you, and for everything that He is doing in your life!

Serving with you,

Allen and Deedee





Operation Transit 2019

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www.optransit.net

2019 Verbally sharing the Gospel

Heard significant portion	1,139
Offered to receive Christ	809
Indicated decisions for Christ	95
[9 were baptized together Sept. 30th]	

2019 Distribution

New Testaments	46,482
JESUS Film items	56,854
Josh McDowell items	40,222
Items for Children	42,809
Total	186,367

1993—2019

New Testaments	2,750,855
JESUS Film items	3,906,587
Josh McDowell items	1,256,317
Items for Children	3,589,083
Other items	1,065,505
Total	12,568,347

... drawing North Africans ...

A young man in a Spanish port had already received a packet in France. Still he accepted More Than a Carpenter to read on his long bus ride ahead.

A traveler's wife opened her purse to reveal a well-used New Testament she had received sometime in the past.

A man had had a dream about a boat where he would receive a gift of a New Testament. As soon as he saw the packet, he knew the gift was the New Testament. "This is the gift I dreamt about," he said.

A man read the New Testament for an hour before driving onto the boat.

A man accepted More Than a Carpenter, "I know it will answer my questions."

While a teenager excitedly used a QR code to access every item of the packet on-line, his aunt listened to the gospel and kept the New Testament.

A man politely refused the packet. After revealing he was Berber, he then accepted a Magdalena DVD having seen it was in his Berber language.

As Jesus had answered one of her prayers, a lady in Paris asked many questions. Given a choice she took a Bible rather than a New Testament alone. She confided she had asked Jesus that morning to provide her with a Bible.

A man's jaw dropped. Just the night before he had talked about the New Testament with a friend. He took a packet for his friend as well as himself.

A man explained that he had gotten a packet the year before and added, "You know that I am your brother now? You understand what that means, right?" He took another packet to give away.

A man downloaded the JESUS Film and God Tools apps onto his phone.

A man said "Oh! The New Testament! I want it." His friend also accepted one.

At a border, two men waited for someone for an hour to learn about Jesus.

A man asked distributors, "The New Testament?" ... "Magnificent!"

A man had received a packet earlier. Intrigued, he wanted to study it more.

A man remarked upon getting the packet, "I am very interested in reading it." Having watched the JESUS Film over Holy Week, a North African woman said while accepting a packet, "I want to learn more about Jesus."

A young lady planned to use her 17 hours of travel to read the books.

A North African woman marveled God would want to forgive her. She went on to receive Christ and was eager to meet other Christians.

A woman listened to the gospel very quietly. When given an opportunity to receive Christ she did so eagerly and full of emotion.

A Spanish participant gave a USB and More Than a Carpenter to a North African in the hospital. Finding the book, a "blessing", he wanted to learn more.

A North African painter joyfully accepted Jesus, promising to read the Bible .

... to Himself

Some illiterate women, in a remote village, saw a New Testament along a path. They learned to read just so they could read it. God then told one in a dream to go to a certain city to look for "a missionary". They went. In the market they found a foreign woman, a missionary, who helped them follow Jesus.

Initially opposed, a man softened as he listened to the gospel, received Christ, and then met four more times for follow-up.

Two evangelists shared their faith with two women who hated having to work as prostitutes. Both indicated receiving Christ and returned to a Bible bookstore for follow-up the next day.

A North African met a second time with an evangelist, saying a film about Jesus had led her to turn to Christ. She then showed a packet she had received years before containing the DVD.

Two men eagerly listened to the gospel and received Christ. Their New Testaments were confiscated at the border afterward, but they came back to learn more, undeterred.

Late one night, prompted by the Spirit, two evangelists led two women to Christ on a beach. They now meet for discipleship.

A woman who first heard about Jesus through a Wonder Book distributed at a port, witnessed every night for a week with people from her own nation traveling through another port.

Students who learned to witness boldly while in Marseille continue to see fruit, with generations of disciples, in their North African country. Several now serve full time. Sent by the others, one has gone to a neighboring country temporarily to help build multiplying disciples there.

**" '...And I,
if I am lifted up
from the earth,
will draw all
men to Myself.**

- John 12:32

