

News From Allen and Deedee, 29 October 2021

We pray that you have been having a beautiful autumn! This has been a very busy and fruitful season for us here. We thank the Lord for the work He has called us to, and we thank the Lord for you! Thank you for all your prayers and support, which help make our ministry here possible.



October began with our twice-yearly Worldwide Day of Prayer, the result of a lot of work by the prayer coordinators in our area, including Deedee. The day's theme and verses were God Is Our strength, Psalm 18:1-2 and 2 Corinthians 12:9-10.

Throughout the day we got to pray with our team, who are mostly in Spain; alone, to meditate on scripture; with our colleagues at the office here in France; with coworkers from around our whole region; and finally, with our entire organization, in an online commissioning service for newly appointed ministry leaders.

Everyone was encouraged and refreshed by spending so much dedicated time in worship, thanksgiving, and intercession. Many of us also took the opportunity to walk and pray outside in the beautiful fall weather!

We partner with several other mission organizations and churches to bring the gospel to North Africans in Europe. Every year, representatives from the partnering ministries meet in the Operation Transit Steering Committee, to review what the Lord has done, and to seek God's guidance for the next year's work. This autumn, we met in multiple sessions. The first, in mid-October, was with everyone, all together on Zoom. Then we met in person separately in France or in Spain, depending on where we live. We also work with partners in Italy; please pray that the Lord would bless the outreach to North Africans in each of these countries.



A Christian leader shared this story at the Steering Committee: Operation Transit has a bookstand in Paris, at an outdoor market which is popular with local North Africans. Just like at the port cities, the volunteers often share the gospel and follow up with new believers. In the past 3 months, four of the people who prayed to receive Christ with them got baptized. One of them shared this testimony: 20 years ago, his family traveled through a European port and got a packet of Christian materials from Operation Transit. He recalled going through the "Wonder Book" as a 6-year-old, and its effect on him. He always remembered the book fondly: how it talked about knowing God, and how he enjoyed doing the activities in it. Reading that children's book clearly prepared him for hearing and understanding the gospel as an adult.

The Christian leader concluded by saying, "We can't ever leave this work, we've got to continue with it even 20 years later."

Thanks for praying for us! We are all learning now: Josiah and Phoebe are in French classes here; and, at last, so are Deedee and I. Thomas is continuing to study linguistics at Michigan State. We are also learning more about getting our official French residency, now with the specialized help of a lawyer. Please pray all of these things go well!

Thank you so much for being part of our lives!
Serving with you,

Allen and Deedee



We are thankful for our beginners' French class, which meets weekly at the community center in this local church.

Allen & Deedee Iobst · iobstsinSpain@gmail.com · <https://give.cru.org/0360087>
42 rue Jean-Baptiste Clément, 91130 Ris-Orangis, **France**