

The Nelsons in Paris



Dear Friends,

Paris, 12th May 2025

Isn't it extraordinary that Jesus himself made prayer such a priority? We even get to listen in to some of his prayers in the gospels, and it is striking how direct his requests are and how full he is of confidence and submission to his Father's will. I often think 'if only I could pray like him'! And yet his very Spirit is in us and teaches us to cry out to him "Abba! Father!" (Rom 8v15). May he help you and I pray with that son-like directness and trust.

Praise God for his grace to us the past few months:

- It was great blessing to have **Attalia** with me for a month as an intern. Please pray for her as she trains for ministry at Cornhill in London, and for the Lord to give her opportunities to serve back here afterwards.
- We **were able to baptise** K., a woman from the neighbourhood who joined us about a year ago and who is in final stages of cancer. It was extraordinary, and she spoke with great clarity about Jesus' sacrifice to save her and her hope of eternal life. She was unable to stand up and was extremely weak, but her friends and family gathered around and heard the gospel explained and saw the difference it makes. Please pray for her, for her family, and particularly that we would be able to continue that witness.
- Lucie and Alex and all the actors did a great job presenting the gospel in **Marc l'Expérience**, an immersive play covering all of Mark's gospel. Praise God for many friends and other guests coming along.
- The **Easter family event**, and the Easter day service were joyful times, with lots of opportunities to celebrate as a church family and welcome others too. It was fun being able to involve all the Nelson offspring who were home. Alex put in a particularly memorable stint as an angry Easter chick trying to steal back his eggs, which made the traditional egg hunt a lot more fun (a sort of variation on tag/stuck in the mud with lots of chocolate).

Please pray with us:

- It is a busy season for **2T22**. As well as re-doing the website (which will soon be in English too!) we have started receiving all the new applications, speaking to church leaders and helping young people refine their projects. Please pray for wisdom and clarity in each of these meetings and calls, and for discernment in which candidates to support for the coming year. Meanwhile this year's group of 35 are reaching the end of their training. Please pray for them as they make decisions about the next steps and for good review sessions with their supervisors. A number are going on to be pastors or church-planters. Others are continuing into theological training.
- On **May 24th** I am speaking at a women's brunch for a sister church on how the gospel changes the way we think about our bodies. Lots of important and tricky questions to navigate but such a glorious hope!
- On **May 27th** I am running an evening workshop at church on relationships.
- On **June 22nd** we are celebrating Jeanne getting baptised. She is one of our group of students who started coming to church in September. Please pray for her friends and family who are invited, and also for Jeanne to be rooted and established in Christ.

We had a lovely week or two all together around Easter, and we are starting to get very excited about Nicolas and Lucy (Miller) getting married in August. They will be moving to central Paris with a view to doing an internship in a church-plant. Please pray for them as they prepare for all those adjustments and that they would be fully relying on the Lord and on his grace. Let me know if you would like to receive their prayer letters.

We are also busy preparing for the summer camps of course. It will be a particular joy to be on the same leader's team with Nicolas, Lucy and Sam (while Alex works hard cleaning and washing up on the Animef team). Please pray for the training day on May 24th, and for us as we all prepare talks and bible studies.

Yours because His, Laura, Nicolas, Samuel, Alex and Lucie xxx



A few of the 2T22 interns (L-R): Marjolaine will be starting as a youth and women's worker at a church in Paris, Mickaël has just started as pastor of a church in Vichy, Yohan (far right) will be going back to his sending church as the new pastor. Loïc and Johnson still have another year of training to go. Below: the family on Easter Sunday after church

