The Nelsons in Paris



Dear Friends, Paris, 1st November 2026

It was very therapeutic to teach the kids to sing "With Jesus in the boat you can smile at the storm" in the week following the riots. It sounds twee but is profoundly true. He has authority over wind and waves, and politics and riots, and he used that strength to rescue us and give us life and hope. Do pray for our city, that people would believe this, starting with us at church and the families who came to the holiday club and went home singing.

Looking back with thanks:

- We had an excellent time on the **Church weekend away October 2nd – 4th** with lots of great discussions around the centrality of the cross, and good opportunities to get to know new folk.
- The **women's conference** in Geneva was encouraging. The women were incredibly committed, with a packed programme of bible teaching. I enjoyed spending time with some of the intern's wives and other women who were at our July retreat. Praise God for their faithfulness and love for God's word.
- It was tough going straight into **the Holiday club,** but Rika (my intern this year) was a fantastic partner in it all. The 3 days of activities went well. Slightly fewer numbers but good relationships built with several local families. Please pray they would come back to the Christmas services and other activities.
- Most of all praise God for the **safe arrival of baby Elisabeth** ! She is thriving, and Nick and Lucy are doing a fantastic job. They have been more affected by the riots than us but are safe and in good heart.

Please pray for us :

- With the **unrest in Paris** : that we would hold out the word of life to those around us who feel so hopeless, angry and afraid. Pray particularly for Alex, Lucie and Nicolas, surrounded by students and young people.
- Pray for **unity** amongst Christians, around the gospel of Jesus, whatever our different political views.
- **November 7th** – speaking at a women's conference in **Antibes**.
- **November 14th** – speaking for our **women's brunch** on the frustrations of living with an imperfect body.
- **December 6th and 13th – Christmas Carol** services. We always invite lots of friends and neighbours. Do pray for many to come, for us to be bold in inviting, and for Marc-Etienne as he explains the gospel.
- The **26 interns being supported by 2T22 this year,** as they settle into ministry in their different church placements and as we get to know them in the training sessions. We are studying Colossians with the Paris gang. Do read the **Donors' Report** with this email for more prayer info.

Thank you for many kind messages and promises of prayer for Paris and France over the past weeks. It has been very sad to see the destruction, but also the anger and hopelessness felt by many young people. We long to see them hear and believe the gospel : an eternal security and solid anchor whatever the future might hold. The worst violence in Paris was just round the corner from Nicolas and Lucy, and as a first-time high school teacher, it has not been a straightforward start for Nicolas. But they are well, and little Eliza is gorgeous and brings joy to us all.

Yours because His, Laura and family











Previous page : baby Eliza at the hospital with happy parents, then getting to know her doting aunt and uncle

Above : Photos of Paris after the worst riots. The slogan reads "Your old world is going up in flames"

Right: Holiday club fun on a boat/fisherman theme

