

TEAM FRANCE

Unpredictable Blessings

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What's Happening Now...

Another year ended with spending the holidays in Saint Louis with my family. It was a restful trip and I was able to catch up with my family and with friends. I must admit some unexpected things did happen, for example the weather.

On Christmas morning it snowed and on January 2, we were awoken by tornado sirens. You have to realize Saint Louis is one of few places where you need storm and earthquake insurance. Why? For things are so unpredictable in Saint Louis. However, through it all God keeps us safe.

While in St. Louis Pastor Fred Hendricks invited me to preach on Christmas morning at Alton Bible Church. The sermon title was "The Never Ending Story" taken from

Ruth 1:22-2:1, Micah 5:2, and Luke 2:1-10. The overall point of the sermon was to trust God as He fulfills His plan for your life.

Also during my time in Saint Louis I visited my great-aunt Geneva Marshall. She is still feisty at her age. She has a common statement that she always says which I have made my own. When speaking about any situation in life she so often responds, "That's God's business!" In essence she is saying that every situation God is ultimately in charge.

Lastly, upon returning to Dallas I am back in the schools mentoring and scheduling parenting



This is a picture of me with my great aunt Geneva during my Christmas vacation in Saint Louis.

workshops. Plus I am working on various community outreach programs for 2006.

Finally, special thank you goes out to all of you have been praying with me and for me. Also a big thank you to all of you who are currently supporting me as God continues to prepare in my move to France.

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An excerpt from an article, "Meanwhile: The French Disconnection" by Corrine Maier, *New York Times*.

"Nonetheless, those few weeks of violence left us bitter. The riots were undoubtedly a reflection of French failure. Failure of the politicians, yes: Jacques Chirac, president since 1995, has been unable to reform society. But also

failure of the 'French model', which asserts that all inequalities, all differences, can be resolved in a shopworn religion called the Republic. Today all of France, even the middle classes, suffers from a feeling that

things won't get better, from an inability to make plans for the future. It's a big topic at dinner parties."

The French need to know that the answer is not found in reforming the society, but through Jesus Christ.



Support Update...Getting Closer

The month of December two unexpected gifts came in the area of housing funds. Housing funds are used to cover moving expenses, initial ministry setup, and language school in France (*the total for all this is \$30,000 to \$35,000*). Before December my pledged monthly support was at 10% (\$4206 in *pledge monthly support needed*) and my housing funds were at 3%. However this was before December ended.

In the last two weeks of December God put on the heart of two couples to give towards my outgoing support.

The amount given well surpasses what I needed to move to France and get settled. Truly, God's word is true. "Now to Him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think—according to the power that works in you—to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen (Ep 3:20-21)."

I am constantly praising God for moving. These are my new support levels. Monthly support is now at

22% and I have some good contacts to follow up with. My housing funds are at 120%.

I am praying for God to continually raise up monthly supporters. For His word is true, "And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus (Ph 4:19)."



Bill and Bobbie Boggess (TEAM missionaries) with family in France. Bill was instrumental in recruiting me.

Missionary Tidbits... Mary Tearing

Mary Tearing was 56 years old when she left America for the Congo. Because of her age, she was not accepted for support so she sold her house, collected her savings and raised \$100 per month support from local church women and went to the Congo. She was instrumental in starting homes for girls and young women. Her work was so exceptional that within two years she was receiving full support from her board.

Becoming a Monthly Supporter...

Here is a breakdown of what is needed on a monthly level. The goal is to achieve \$4206 in pledged monthly support to order to do live and do ministry in France. My current level is 22%. For example you can help at the following levels:
42 individuals @ \$100 monthly = \$4200 monthly
84 individuals @ \$50 monthly = \$4200 monthly
168 individuals @ \$25 monthly = \$4200 monthly

OR \$1 a day (*This method can be done as an individual or as a group of individuals*)

- 1 individual @ \$1 daily = \$30 monthly
- 10 individuals @ \$1 daily = \$304.17 monthly
- 20 individuals @ \$1 daily = \$456.25 monthly

Becoming a supporter involves a step of faith. If you interested please contact me for further information.

This is for the Prayer Warriors...*(Also another way of supporting)*

In your prayer time I ask that you would pray for these items.

- Pray for Rev. Jesse Julius and his family. Pray that God would provide a larger house for them.



Martin, just being a part of the Evans family.

- For God to begin to soften the hearts of the French for evangelism and salvation.
 - That God raises up monthly supporters.
 - My attending Language Acquisition school this summer.
 - My focus on raising support and spiritual growth.
- Opportunities to minister and share the vision of TEAM.
- French Christians and TEAM missionaries who partnering for the gospel sake.