

RICH and CINDY BROWN in SPAIN

How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity! Psalm 133:1



Rich giving a brief devotional at our church picnic on June 12, 2021

June 2021

We are currently experiencing a sweet time in our ministry at our church in Alcalá de Henares, Spain. There has been good attendance at the Sunday services, increased numbers at prayer meeting, openness to counsel and discipleship and more interest in baptism and church membership.

MINISTRY WITH RESTRICTIONS

One year ago this month we started in-person church services after Spain's near-total national lockdown. Since then, we have slowly made progress toward the new normal. The youth group was the first activity to start up again. The youth started meeting in a home last summer for a book study and they also planned some outings. In the fall we cautiously started Sunday school classes and then the children's Friday evening Bible Club after Spanish schools reopened for in-person classes.

All winter the church capacity restrictions in our area have fluctuated between 33 and 50%, requiring two back-to-back services to accommodate the people who want to attend. (That's a good problem to have!) In June the restrictions were lifted to 75% capacity. **Thank the Lord with us for more freedom to meet!**

With the relaxing of restrictions, Rich has picked up several Bible studies with men. In the fall, street evangelism in downtown Alcalá was reinitiated on Thursdays and Rich was able to participate as strength allowed. He continues Spanish conversation practice with Fernando and that has morphed into regular Bible reading. This spring Rich started helping a neighbor with English conversation in preparation for his new assignment as an attaché for Spain in Indonesia. **Please pray for Rich's witness to Fernando and JL.**

This school year Cindy was able to teach English classes to children in our ministry center following proper hygiene and distancing. After noticing that the public schools were running day camps this summer, she decided to hold several day camps in our ministry center in July: a Polar English Camp followed by a VBS.

**Pray that people would be brave enough to trust us with their kids from July 5-16
and that the kids would have ears to hear the gospel.**

SPOTLIGHT on ÁNGEL and ARACELI



Ángel is giving a “thumbs up” for the carrot cake that his daughter made him for Father’s Day in one of Cindy’s cooking classes.

Araceli is smiling because 1. She is a COVID survivor and 2. She just had her last COVID vaccine. Araceli is also happy because she has a new study Bible and Cindy has been teaching her how to use it.

Araceli was saved and baptized in our church in 2016 and has grown as a believer. Ángel is still not saved but is coming closer. When we met Ángel, he only occasionally came to special events at church. Now he often accompanies his family to church and is comfortable coming to our home and talking with us. Ángel represents one of the many unsaved husbands in our church. **Would you pray for the salvation of these unsaved men?** Ángel (Araceli), Eiffel (Marleny), Elías (María), Isidro (Gladys), and Javier (Sabine).

RICH’S HEALTH

Thank you for praying that Rich could sleep after beginning immunosuppressant drugs for Type 1 AIH. Rich has been sleeping much better with the help of a non-addictive sleep aid prescribed by his doctor.

We also asked you to pray that Rich’s liver would recover from the damage it has sustained. **Thank God with us that Rich is starting to feel more like himself again.** He surprised everyone on Monday when he got up and announced that he was going to paint the fence... and then he did! We hope the increased energy means Rich’s liver is beginning to recover from the advanced fibrosis diagnosed in March 2021.

Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. Psalm 73:25-26

Thank you for your faithful prayers for us,

Rich and Cindy Brown

Missionaries to Spain with ABWE