

Felipe and Sarah Yanez

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The call in action

Dear friends,

The gospel and its power

"The time has come... The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" (Mark 1:15)

Here in Spain we come across people from a lot of different backgrounds, many of whom have a hunger for truth in their lives. When I (Felipe) was young I was so relieved that Jesus died for all my sins on the cross, but I needed to repent, to experience metanoia (a transformative change of heart), gain a new perspective of how I stood before God. Every day I am amazed by God's grace, because I am not qualified. My standards are so far below God's standards and it is impossible to achieve salvation and acceptance by God through my own efforts. I need a saviour, Jesus.

Faced with this reality, it is also important we put ourselves in other people's shoes when talking about faith. When people are challenged about the need to repent and believe in Christ, they become moved by Jesus needing to die on the cross for their sins. After repenting however, some become disappointed and somewhat disillusioned when they still continue to sin, and they may even walk away, feeling their repentance didn't work.

We have to highlight to our audience that there are two groups of people in this world, "saved sinners" and "lost sinners". There is no one righteous, only God. Please pray that we might see people with the eyes of Jesus and be effective when delivering the message of salvation and the power he has to change lives.

Diez42 centre

We continue to have numerous clients receiving food on a regular basis and are grateful for the recent receipt of 20 tonnes of food from Bancosol, the central Malaga foodbank supplier. We are now re-establishing the English and Spanish classes as well as the ladies' cooperative, and the venue is also used by two small church congregations each week. With increasing client numbers and activities, we need more space and have started looking for a new, larger venue. We are grateful for a possible significant donation towards this. Please pray we will find a suitable location for the various activities, and for the necessary donations to fund the move. Please also remember one of the leaders of Diez42 who is currently undergoing tests for some health issues.

A hectic summer

Sam moved to the UK in August to start a BTEC level 3 in health and social care. We are so grateful for God's provision for him: he is lodging with a lovely family within walking distance of the college and is really enjoying his course. Pray for Sam's studies, that he will soon form good friendships with other

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Name: Felipe and Sarah Yanez

Location: Malaga, Spain

Our call: Our aim is to build bridges, bring encouragement and hope and share Christ with people from all walks of life.

Our role: Felipe's work includes supporting a food bank, Bible studies and informal discipleship. Sarah helps manage the ABC food bank and runs its clothes bank.



Felipe at a food collection campaign in Malaga

Christians his age, and that he will find part-time work in the New Year.

I (Sarah) travelled to the UK with Sam to help him get settled, as well as spending some time with my dad who, at 87, is keeping well and enjoying his garden and renewed social life post-lockdown. At the end of August, I started visits to our supporting churches and friends throughout England. September and October included: 1800+ miles driven; 40+ meals or coffees with churches and supporters (not including with hosts); 20 bus or coach trips; 14 link churches visited; 10 different beds; eight train trips; one three-day training course.

It was lovely to connect and re-connect with so many folk and hear all the amazing ways people are reaching out to others with God's love, providing for people's practical, emotional and spiritual needs. Please now pray for me as I settle back into life in Alhaurin and discern how God would use me during this next season.

Holding the fort

While Sarah was in the UK, Felipe and Aaron held the fort in Alhaurin. Felipe writes: "We soon realised how much work is involved in running the house: washing and ironing clothes, cleaning the house and walking Beula on top of work and school. I had to be much more conscious of time-keeping at work, in order to get back home to make lunch. Aaron was a great help and helped keep things in order."

Church barbecues and connections

The Connections ministry team has continued its regular monthly activities to get people together. In August the men decided on a barbecue instead of a breakfast, which was such a success it has now become a quarterly activity. The first barbecue saw 22 men attend and the second had 40, many of whom were visitors. Pray for deepening connections and great conversations to be had, and that those who are not yet Christians will be encouraged to consider it and to take steps forward on their faith journey.

Pray for the Connections team as we look to focus on developing the home groups in church, encouraging more people to be involved and new groups to start. Also pray that the church will develop a heart for our local Alhaurin community and come up with practical strategies for connecting with people to make a positive difference.

We are immensely grateful to so many of you who continue to pray, encourage and contribute financially to CMS, enabling us to do what we do. We continue to have a £5-10k shortfall deficit in our CMS budget and would appreciate prayer that this shortfall will be covered by the end of the year. If you would like to make a gift, or know others who would be willing to support us, do visit our page on the CMS website to donate (churchmissionsociety.org/yanez) or contact us or paul.read@churchmissionsociety.org for more information.

Thank you, and may God lead and guide each of you into his purposes in 2022.

Bendiciones, Felipe, Sarah, Sam and Aaron



Photos from top to bottom: Aaron and friends; Sam in Ipswich; sharing in a CMS link church; saying farewell

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We live in a violent world but CMS partners in Africa and across the globe are bringing change, hope and freedom to lives wrecked by war. You can help bring the peace of Christ to lives torn apart by conflict too. Find out more at churchmissionsociety.org/christmas2021

If you would like to discuss your mailings with us or to receive this link letter on a regular basis, please email supporter.care@churchmissionsociety.org or call 01865 787400

You can give to Felipe and Sarah at:
churchmissionsociety.org/yanez

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