

SPAIN STAKES



MINISTRIES

# THE BELASCOS, MISSIONARIES TO SPAIN

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## May 2023

12 years! This month marks 12 years since we first arrived on the field in Spain. The time has flown by! When we first arrived we couldn't speak the language. We didn't understand the idiosyncrasies of the culture. We stepped out on faith, never imagining how God was going to use us in this strange land. It is amazing and humbling to see the answered prayers and the accomplishments that only God could fulfill in the ministry here. A new church planted, many people saved, many lives touched, now building a new building and a second work, and our God's not done yet!

A few months ago, Simón, a young Venezuelan man visited the church. He came to Spain seeking medical attention for an infected hip prosthesis because the medical facilities in Venezuela cannot help him. It came to our attention that he was living on the street and sleeping on a bench at the bus station. Despite the pain and severe limp, he wants to work and raise the money for his surgery.. Arnold brought him to the church property, and he now stays in the building to serve as security at night, delivers food on a scooter, and helps on the project when he can. One day while working together, Arnold shared the Gospel with him, and he chose to ask forgiveness for his sins and accept Christ as his Savior. Please pray for Simón as he continues to grow in his walk with Christ and seeks the medical help he needs to repair his hip.

Celia, who we told you about in our last letter, is doing well. She has begun discipleship classes and is happy to be renewed in Christ and free from her old life. The change in her has been very obvious and we praise the Lord for that.

Our annual Family Easter Party was a great success once again. We had over 40 kids (and their families) in attendance and many of them were visitors. They played games, hunted eggs and heard the real reason to celebrate Easter. One great blessing that resulted from that event was that the city planner who approved our use of the park took an interest in the church and wanted to meet. He brought the mayor of Torrent and they toured the new building. We look forward to building a relationship with them.



You may remember from previous letters, we are the sponsoring church for a church plant started in 2020 in Villa-Real. A man from our church was ordained to pastor that work and is now preparing to raise financial support to be able to leave secular work and pastor full-time. Please pray for Pastor Omar and the growing work in Villa-Real.

During the month of April, we had three families join the church. We've also had three babies born in the church so far this year! The Lord is growing His church here in Torrent – in more ways than one! We are looking forward to having more space in the new building. As we near completion, we are still lacking funds to complete it well.

Please continue to pray for the remainder of the funds for the new building.



### PRAYER REQUESTS:

1. Pastor Omar and the church in Villa-real.
2. Funds to be raised to finish the building in Torrent.
3. Salvations and growth in both churches.

Because He Lives,

Arnold & Leslie Belasco