

Dear Pastors, Churches, and Praying Friends,

Thank you for your prayers and support for our family and ministry. We are grateful to the Lord for sustaining us and keeping us. The months of March and April were good months and seemed to go by quite fast. I (Don) finished my most recent Swedish language course in March. The teacher told me that it was unnecessary to take the spoken part of the test because she felt that my speaking ability had proven sufficient to move forward without testing. Whether or not her estimation of my speaking ability was accurate, it was nice knowing that I have advanced to such a degree for her to deem it unnecessary to take the test.

In April, a young woman named Laura was able to visit us. She serves at our home church and works a lot with the children's ministries and the Spanish-speaking community. Laura was able to be with us during the Easter weekend and meet the group of people that we gather with. We had a good time while she was here and we were blessed by her visit.

In our previous prayer letter, we mentioned that we will be taking roughly a one year furlough beginning the end of June. We mentioned the two primary reasons of taking this furlough, namely rest and our children's education. Please pray with us that we would be able to see our children develop in reading and writing, especially in English. They have been real troopers while attending the Swedish school here. All in all, we really like the school and appreciate the teachers and staff. It is obvious that they truly care for the students and wish to see each child develop. Nevertheless, we feel strongly that having a year in the States will prove invaluable to their long-term education. It will also provide us the opportunity to seek God's will concerning how we can go forward with quality education in Sweden, even if that means that they attend an international English school. It is definitely a possibility that we feel we need to look into and pray about. It is our heart's desire that our entire family thrive and have the best opportunity to grow and develop while we live and minister abroad.

There is much to do in preparation for our furlough. There are several people that we have met and established a connection with. We are trying to at least have a brief time with each of them before we leave, even if it is just over fika (a word/activity unique to Sweden that basically means a coffee and snack shared among friends or colleagues). These are great opportunities to testify of the Lord and speak of the saving grace found through faith in Jesus Christ. Please pray that the Lord would grant us an open door to share the good news of Jesus Christ with those who may have never heard a clear presentation of the gospel.

Thank you, and may the Lord bless you,

Don & Beverly Sixt

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