



The Good Samaritan

Presence at *Mission Possible* Conference in Madrid

Organized by the Federation of Independent Evangelical Churches of Spain (FIEIDE), a conference was held in Madrid in early April for Christian youth from all over Spain. This year, although fewer youth attended (due to the crisis), there was no decrease in the fervor or enthusiasm of the participants. This time the focus was on the founding of churches and commitment to reach others with the Gospel. European Christian Mission and the Good Samaritan Association had an information booth at the conference, as did many other Spanish evangelical entities.

It was a privilege to see the youth from our church, the future, make known the work of these organizations. Many thanks are due to Sonia Arjona for all her effort and "Andalusian artwork," transmitting the heart of our ministry to her friends. In addition to making contact with a good number of friends in the ministry, I had the privilege of greeting John Blake, the missionary who led me to the feet of the Lord 38 years ago. The six young people from our church who went have returned greatly motivated and full of passion for preaching the Gospel. Thanks to all the Mission Possible team for making this event a reality.



At the information booth we promoted our social work towards addicts, the olive oil we sell and the projects of European Voluntary Service.

20st Anniversary



“Ebenezer: The Lord has helped us thus far.” This has been the phrase that has summed up these first 20 years of work helping others. More than 14 nationalities were represented at our anniversary celebration, among them volunteers, friends, missionaries from different entities (DMG, ECM), and—of course—people who have been through rehabilitation. In the first place, we want to express our most sincere thanks to Elisabeth Bolduan, the first director, who in addition to the European Director of DMG, Gerald Häde, accompanied us on this very special day. A good number of rehabilitated men, with their families and children, put the golden touch on the event.

We also enjoyed the participation of the team from the “caravan of prayer” from Brazil, led by Pastor Carlos Henrique, who reminded us of the three principles that come from the parable of the Good Samaritan: those of the darkness, of the religious world, and of the Kingdom of God. David Bea, pastor and musician, composed a song specifically for that day titled, “The Good Samaritan,” which stirred our spirits, reminding us what is the real challenge for all believers.



Elisabeth and Gerald also had words of thanks to the Good Samaritan Association for its continual support for this work, continued now by the Weinman family, Roland being the present director. At the governmental level we enjoyed the presence of the mayor of Añora, Bartolomé Madrid, who had affectionate and moving words for all those present. Right after that, three former residents gave their testimony of how they had come out of their addictions. One of them was accompanied by his wife and children (they had met at the church in Pozoblanco); they came all the way from England to be with us that day.

To honor all those “dear departed” who “left us” for a better place, we had a minute of silence. Then the Association’s president and co-founder gave a talk reflecting on the passage about the Good Samaritan. A commemorative plaque of olive wood, with the text of “Ebenezer,” was unveiled by the three directors that the Center has had: Elisabeth, Raúl and the present director, Roland. Later, a moving audiovisual presentation about the 20 years of ministry was presented, a magnificent piece of work by Samuel Arjona Farelly.

Then we had an excellent meal that included, as is our tradition, an enormous paella for 200 people, salads of all types, etc., all of it prepared by a team of volunteers (friends, church members and partners of the Association), to the delight of all. The winners of the traditional dessert contest received prizes of the Center’s extra-virgin organic olive oil (“Good Samaritan” brand.) And so we got to the day’s end, with one phrase on our lips: “Thank you, God, for your faithfulness, and glory to God for his love and forgiveness demonstrated in his Son Jesus Christ !”



Government collaboration

Our access road gets deteriorated from the rains... Well, the local governments of both Viso and Añora have donated several truckloads of cement to fix part of that road! We certainly want to recognize those two local governments, of different political parties but both sensitive and in solidarity, which have participated in the improvement and development of our rehabilitation center. To both governments and to their mayors, especially, many thanks for not only being sensitive politicians, but also persons with a heart in solidarity with their neighbors!

Rafa graduates from the Center

Sent from the Evangelical Church of Castelldefels, where we have an office of the Good Samaritan, this young man properly finished his therapeutic program, and we proceeded with his official discharge. After so much time, he had reached his goal. From here we want to wish him the best, and above all that God guide his steps. Now, as is part of our procedure, the church that originally sent us the young man will continue to monitor and support him. Be of good courage, Rafa, and may God guard and guide you all your life!



Herrera Family



Three cheers for retired people! We have a ministry friend from Holland -Enrique Herrera- who asked me one day, "Could my father come accompany me? He lives in Holland, but he's Guatemalan and speaks Spanish." After visiting the Good Samaritan Center for several days, he asked me if he could come "collaborate with his wife" in whatever might be needed.

So **Mario and Dicky Herrera**, retired, both Spanish-speakers, have spent a month with us doing all kinds of things. We can only say, "Bravo for retirees!" Especially for those take who time to

serve the Lord. May others imitate their example! Many thanks to them for all their affection and love for others.

**Many thanks to all of you
for your support and prayers !**

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