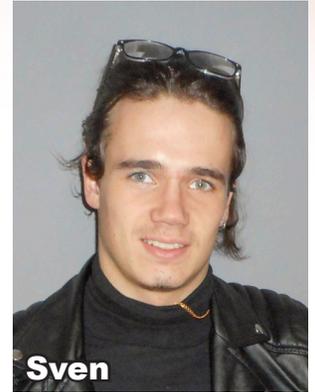


# The Flowers

Church Planting in Charleville-Mézières, France

February 28, 2017

I had a decision to make during the summer of 2015. It didn't seem to be an earthshaking one, and yet—we know that even the smallest decision can impact eternity. My basketball team in Villers Semeuse, where I played for two seasons, was dissolving, and I needed God to show me where to go next. I had several teams who tried to recruit me; they would have been an easy choice because I already had friends and acquaintances on those teams. God, however, led me to the small town of Nouzonville, on the outskirts of Charleville, where I didn't know a soul. Before even setting foot on the court though, I knew it was where God wanted me to be. At that very first practice, I met an 18-year-old named Sven. He has a German mother and a French father and is passionate about basketball. Over the past two seasons we have spoken about many topics, including life and death. Around the holidays he asked me if I knew I was going to Heaven after my death. Of course I responded “yes”! He was amazed at my assurance and wanted to know why I was so certain. “Over coffee” early one morning, (check out our last prayer letter!) I led him to Christ. Since then he has been coming to church as his work schedule allows and is growing in the Word. I never dreamed as a young man in junior high that my love for basketball would be used by God as an open door to reach people. Please pray that many more would be saved in Nouzonville.



Sven

In January Janice and I had our first experience in an Asian culture. We visited my brother Jon and his family in Taipei, Taiwan, where they have started a church and are working hard to win people to Christ. It had been many years since we had been together; we really enjoyed reconnecting with them and getting to know our nephews. It blew my mind to hear my little brother speaking Chinese and communicating with the people! (I think I'll stick with French for now.) Jon and April took us to some local spots, and of course, a street market. Suffice it to say, it is quite different from its French counterpart! Who would have thought that something like dried squid could be so popular? There was something new, interesting, and shocking everywhere we looked. With three little blonde-haired boys in tow, we drew a lot of attention wherever we went.



Visiting Taiwan

Another reason for my visit was to preach at a winter youth camp up in the mountains. Several churches brought together around 70 young people for a time of spiritual growth and fellowship. A significant number of those attending was unsaved. Family pressure to remain Buddhist is a great battle there in Taiwan. Please pray that God would bless the seed sown. Pray that young people would choose to follow Christ in their society. What a blessing to have visited my brother's ministry and to see what God is doing through their lives!

It seems like the devil is fighting the work here in France more than ever. Please pray for us to remain strong in the Lord.

Sincerely,



Danny & Janice Flowers  
Lydia, Kara, Lincoln & Grant



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