

# The Flowers

Church Planting in Charleville-Mézières, France

January 10, 2024

Dear Supporting Friends,

Being from Florida, we wait with bated breath every winter, hoping for snow in the Ardennes. We drove through some snow last week when we were traveling, and it reminded me of a time several winters ago when we had a little snow fall here in town. I had taken my kids to the local park to build a snowman, and we met a Belgian gentleman named Michel who had the same idea and was playing in the snow with his twin girls. We quickly hit it off, and I invited him to church. Some time passed, and we met again--but this time through basketball when his girls played against our children's team. Soon after, he and his Vietnamese wife invited us to dinner in their home, and we had the opportunity to talk for a good while about God and spiritual things. He was Catholic but extremely frustrated with the dogma and practices of the church. I shared as much as I could that day about Christ and the true meaning of the cross. I tried on several occasions afterward to open the Bible with him, but each time he put me off.

This past year I crossed paths with Michel once again in the streets. I could tell that he had aged and realized why when he told me about his divorce and other hardships he had gone through. He mentioned how he planned to turn his body over to science when he died, thus avoiding any funeral costs at his death. My response was, "That's great to have a plan for your body, but have you thought about where your soul will go?" I was met with total silence. I actually begged him that day to let me show him from the Bible how he could be sure of Heaven, but he was noncommittal, and we eventually parted ways.

Two weeks later, Grant and I were downtown when I saw Michel from afar. He strode purposefully toward me and said loudly, "I sold my soul to the Devil!" Quite honestly, I was so shocked that I said the first thing that came to mind, "Why in the world would you do that?" He responded defiantly, "Just to irritate you!" What a tragedy! Michel was so close to the truth. He had so many opportunities, but he ultimately chose to turn away and disregard what happens to his soul.

A young woman named Comfort has come to our church several times in the past few months. Originally from Nigeria, Comfort is a victim of human trafficking but has been able to start a new life in our area. Recently, I shared the Gospel with her, and at first she was quite confident about her soul and about where she would spend eternity in Heaven. After reading some Bible verses though, her confidence wavered, and she was visibly shaken. She started to realize that her sin problem was a bigger issue than she had imagined and that it had separated her from God. Please pray with us for conviction in Comfort's life.

We are praying that God would give you a wonderful new year as you serve Him. Thank you for partnering with us in reaching souls in France.

In Christ,



Danny & Janice Flowers  
Kara, Lincoln & Grant



**Sunday Morning Service**

Sending Church  
Regency Baptist Temple  
1130 Rogero Road  
Jacksonville, FL 32211  
904-805-0505

Contact:  
13 Rue Lamartine  
08000 Charleville-  
Mezieres  
France  
904-507-4551

Baptist International Missions, Inc.  
PO Box 9  
Harrison, TN 37341  
423-344-5050