

❖ HOME CHURCH
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The Forbes family
your missionaries to
GREAT BRITAIN



December 2020

Dear Friends,

As you will no doubt have heard, in the UK we are in the state of constant lockdowns and tough restrictions. Church is open but we are still limited in numbers, there is no singing or interaction between people. This, of course, makes ministry very challenging.

In the first lockdown this year we were asked to close, but on the second lockdown it was law. Now can you imagine that? The government of Great Britain brought it into law that churches could not meet. Thankfully that time has passed, but as churches gather together again there are still guidelines – everyone must wear a mask, no singing and no speaking or interacting with anyone else. People purely come, sit and go home. More and tougher lockdowns are expected in January, but we will need to wait and see what all of that brings.

As bad as it seems, and it is bad, we are thankful that by Easter we should see the beginning of some form of improvement. Here in the UK, we have a vaccine that will be administered out to the most vulnerable by mid-January. We thank God for giving the scientist the knowledge and ability to work towards an answer to the problem we are all facing.

However, in all of this God is still working and we see past events are now shaping future events. Exactly a year ago I was asked to speak for and help a group of British believers who are endeavouring to plant a church in the Canary Islands. The Canaries sit off the northwest coast of Africa. They are Spanish islands, but are heavily populated by British, German and Russian citizens. It is where Africa and Europe meet and at first glance look very nice. When you take another look you will see homelessness, drugs, addictions of every kind and complete desperation. The Canaries is a place where broken Brits flee, trying get away from their problems and where Africans flee for a better life. Unfortunately, neither finds what they are looking for.

I have left the ministry in England in the capable hands of men that I have been working with. If all goes well – and I very much expect it to – then I will leave the ministry in their capable hands full time. My job has always been to get the church to a point that they could again support their own pastor full time.

We are encouraged by the number of people who have come along so far here in Tenerife. The average is about 50 on Sunday mornings, and 13 on Sunday evenings and for Tuesday Bible study. We will be here until the end of January when we plan return to the UK.

Melinda and I are doing well and excited to see what God will accomplish through us in the Canaries over the next two months. We have had to jump through hoops with COVID tests and red tape, but God has very much blessed us through this endeavour.

Many thanks to you all for your prayers and support.

May the Lord bless you this Christmastime and give you a great New Year.

Graham & Melinda Forbes

NEHEMIAH 2:18 "...LET US RISE UP AND BUILD..."

BIMI

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