



**January 2015**

***'And do this, understanding the present time: the hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.'*** Romans 13:11

Dear Friends,

Praise God for this truth that our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed! Thank you so much for your prayers for the gospel work here in Belgium. Eternity will tell how God has chosen to answer them!

#### **TERM UPDATE**

It was a long old term but many chances to speak of Jesus and much to give thanks to our Father for...

#### **Thursday night bible study with students**

It's been a mixed term in the student bible study group. It's been encouraging studying Ephesians with God teaching us lots. Praise God that two non-Christian students came along for four of the studies. Praise God as well for A (Belgian lad) who led three bible studies this term.

However, attendance from Christian students was sporadic. Some students had a heavy work-load and others have not yet fully grasped the importance of the local church. This term was a reminder to us just how small and fragile the student-work is at Woluwe church (only five - seven students in the whole church). Please pray that God would grow the students at church in number and in maturity this coming term.

#### **One to One Bible studies**

Robbie has been able to meet up with A (co-leader in the bible study). Praise God for how he's grown this year. Please pray that he would continue to grow and that God might be pleased to grow his character, convictions and competence in ministry.

Praise God for the chance Robbie had to meet P (one of the non-Christians coming to bible study) to look at Mark's Gospel. Since the new year P has not been keen to meet up, so please pray that this might change and that God might save him.

Praise God for the chance Lizzie has had to meet with two Belgian girls M and E to read through the book of Romans. Please pray that God would use his word to grow all three in their understanding and appreciation of the gospel.

### **IBB (Institut Biblique Belge)**

Robbie has been teaching two first-year modules at the Belgian Bible Institute this term, Beginners' Hebrew and Exegesis. Praise God for the opportunity to help train future bible teachers. Praise God for his sustaining of Robbie in the weekly preparation of these classes. Please pray that the students would persevere in their biblical language learning and that God would equip them to be faithful handlers of God's word.



### **Family**

Give thanks for a good term for Lizzie with Lola. Lola had a brief stay in hospital due to a common lung infection but she's doing very well now by God's grace. Please keep praying that God would one day open her eyes to believe the gospel and that he would give us strength and godliness for this next stage of parenting as she starts to understand what we're saying a bit more!

### **LOOKING FORWARD: Next Term**

#### **Teaching at IBB**

Starting in February, Robbie will be teaching Reformation Theology and Hebrew 1b at the Belgian Bible Institute. In agreement with Woluwe Church, Robbie took January as a study month so he could get his head round the Reformation and how to teach its theology in a clear and helpful way. Please pray that he would be encouraged by the truths of which he reads and of the courage of our forefathers in the faith and that the students would be equipped with a sound doctrinal framework and a desire to contend for the faith once for all entrusted to the saints.



#### **Student Work at Woluwe Church**

Starting in February, we shall be doing an overview of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation in the bible study groups. Do pray that more students would come along and would see God's wonderful plan of salvation through these studies. Please pray that the students would be real evangelists among their friends and would live godly lives.

### **LOOKING FORWARD: Next year**

Please pray for wisdom as to how best to serve God's kingdom out here in Belgium. Robbie has been encouraged to pursue further study in Theology. This would most likely take the form of a part-time Masters' degree. This would probably mean a weekly timetable of three days a week working at Woluwe church, two days a week studying for the Masters' and one day a week teaching at the Belgian Bible Institute. Please pray he might find the right Masters' programme and that Robbie would be further equipped to serve Jesus and the local church in Belgium for years to come.

Thank you very much for your partnership with us in the gospel! Do keep in touch!

Robbie and Lizzie

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