



**January 2016**

*'Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.'* - 1 Peter 2:11-12

We are going through 1 Peter in our church in Brussels at the moment. We're praying these verses would sum up 2016 for the Bellis family; that we'd live out our identity in a hostile world, making progress in the battle against sin and living visibly godly lives amongst non-Christians that they might come to know Jesus for themselves.

Since some churches have adopted us as Mission Partners only recently (for which we are very grateful!), perhaps it would be useful to outline how exactly we're serving Jesus in Belgium.

**ROBBIE**

<p><b>Assistant at Woluwe Evangelical Church</b></p> <p>Since graduating from the Belgian Bible Institute (the IBB in French) in September 2015, Robbie has been working in an assistant's role at the Eglise Protestante Evangélique de Bruxelles-Woluwe (the Evangelical Protestant Church in Woluwe, Brussels). He has a particular remit for student-work and prays that God might grow that work.</p>	<p><b>Teaching two modules a term at the Belgian Bible Institute</b></p> <p>This term Robbie will be teaching basic Hebrew and Reformation Theology to the first year students at the IBB. He is excited about this chance to have some input in the training of future pastors and key church members for ministry in this needy country.</p>	<p><b>Studying part-time for a Master's Degree at the John Owen Centre in London</b></p> <p>Robbie has been encouraged by our pastor in Brussels as well as by the teachers at the IBB to pursue a Master's Degree in Theology to be more useful to the church here in Belgium. He has just started this January with a module on the Bible. He will now be spending two days a week in the library studying and two to three weeks per year in London attending lectures.</p>
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Zwingli, Luther, Knox and Calvin rediscovered the biblical Gospel in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. Robbie's class on Reformation Theology will examine their courageous stand for the Gospel as well as looking at their teaching.



## LIZZIE

<b>Children's ministry at Woluwe Church</b>	<b>Women's ministry at Woluwe Church</b>	<b>Full-time mum to Lola</b>
<p>Lizzie leads the 8-12 yr old Sunday School group (called the dauphins = dolphins!). There are regularly between 15 and 20 children in this group. This term they will be studying the Sermon on the Mount. Lizzie's praying they'll learn about kingdom living and that there'll be enough leaders for the group!</p>	<p>Lizzie hosts and helps lead a bible study for women at Woluwe church on a Friday afternoon. This term they will be studying the book of Exodus. She also helps at the mothers and babies' group on a Thursday morning (called Petits Lapins – little rabbits) where there is a short bible talk aimed at the mums.</p>	<p>We are grateful that Lizzie can stay at home and look after our daughter Lola in these early years. Lola will be 2 at the end of January and is a great joy. She's now got quite a few words – pretty much all in English for the moment, praying the French will come in time!</p>

### Subjects for **Praise:**

- Praise God for the number of new students who have started coming to Woluwe church (around nine on a good night at bible study)
- Praise God for a good start with the women's bible study last term and the few women who have come along.
- Praise God for the reading, thinking and study Robbie is able to do for his Master's course.
- Praise God for good rest over the Christmas and New Year period.
- Praise God for sustaining us in the Christian life and in ministry in 2015



*Lola with her godfather Matt over Christmas!*

### Please **pray:**

- For growth in godliness for us in 2016
- That Robbie would use his time wisely and efficiently this term and that his Master's studies would cause him to know God better through his word
- For God to grow his people through bible studies in the book of Exodus
- For one-to-one bible studies with students
- That the Sunday school members would learn more about Jesus this term
- That Robbie's classes at the IBB would be faithful to God's word and useful
- For ongoing boldness for us as we seek to get alongside unbelievers with the Gospel
- For Robbie's sermons in 1 Peter on 24 January and 14 February
- For ongoing language ability in French for both of us
- For a week of evangelism at church in the lead-up to Easter (13-20 March)

Thank you very much for your partnership with us in the Gospel! Do keep in touch!  
Robbie and Lizzie

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