

# Bill & Therese Williams

May - June 2020



## CORONAVIRUS IN SPAIN AND PALENCIA

I pray this prayer letter will be the last one in which this dreadful virus is highlighted. Therese and I, as well as our church and most of Spain are still in lockdown. It is called quarantine, but I prefer to call it house arrest. Part of Spain has gone into Phase One as of the 11th of May, but the city of Palencia is still in Phase Zero. This means we cannot hold even limited services in our building which has now been vacant for 10 weeks! We are praying for the possibility of entering in to our building to hold a very limited attendance on Sunday morning the 31st of May, but that possibility is looking more and more bleak as our provincial government is requiring only three COVID-19 cases (not deaths) for every 10,000 people in the city for 14 consecutive days. We have already surpassed that amount (only due to more extensive testing), so will probably not be able to be released from our apartments until the first of June, if then. Please, pray with us about this. While it is true that Spain has had some of the highest amounts of deaths per capita (not sure but that it may be number one in the world); nevertheless, it has drastically fallen off in the last week, and the Spanish people are desperate to be freed from their confinement and reopen businesses which have been shuttered since the second week of March. Demonstrations have erupted all over Spain in the last week in protest of the socialist/communist (literally... we have a socialist president and a communist vice-president) government's response to the pandemic.

### Ok, no more complaining! Now for the good news!

We are rejoicing here in the Faith Baptist Church of Palencia, as we have had *no one* infected with the virus. And as I wrote in my last prayer letter, we have been *infected with a greater sense of dependence on our God for our well-being, not only physically, but psychologically and most importantly, spiritually.* We continue to celebrate all of our services as well as our classes in a combination of YouTube and Zoom platforms. We hold our ministerial and trustee meetings in Zoom as well as two hours of Sunday evening fellowship, and fasting and prayer times. The church is maintaining its unity and is in relatively good spirits in spite of being frustrated with not being able to be together physically. Nevertheless, we know that hard times



are ahead as many have lost their jobs and may not gain them back. Our offerings, tithes and faith promise mission offerings have been drastically reduced, but the church is holding its own as Therese and I have added extra funds.

I want to close out this prayer letter *thanking you, our supporting churches*, for your faithfulness to me and Therese and our ministry these last few months. We are aware that you all as well are going through many difficult trials in the midst of this crisis, but as a whole you all have been so very faithful to us. We continue to pray that the Lord will provide and reward you all for your faithfulness!

This past Sunday, Therese and I recorded another update video which we want to greatly encourage you to download and review. The YouTube link address is: [https://youtu.be/A1E\\_GNUCqpg](https://youtu.be/A1E_GNUCqpg) We pray this four-minute video will be an immense encouragement to you all during these difficult times.

**We greatly appreciate your continued prayers and financial support!**

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Serving Christ together,

*Bill + Therese*