

December 2020 Dear Pastors, Friends, & Family,

I hope everyone had a good Christmas. I know this year was a little different for some, and a lot for others, than our usual Christmas celebration. The great thing is that our joy does not come from our circumstances, and no matter what else is going on, we can always remember the real reason we celebrate Christmas.

Here on the island, the COVID numbers and restrictions are ever-changing. Every two weeks there are new restrictions, and we as a family and as a church have to make adjustments. The numbers for Mallorca are currently the worst they have been. Thankfully they are trying not to go into full quarantine again. One of the hardest things is trying to keep up with and understand all the new restrictions. Right now, as I understand everything, we are not allowed to leave our city, and certain areas of the city are closed down, with exceptions for work. They tried to make our curfew 8:00 PM, but Spain would not allow it; so we can legally be out until 10:00 PM although 8:00 is recommended. There are restrictions of six people in a house, including residents and kids, and fifteen people in our church building. With all that being said, I am grateful that we are still able to leave the house and have church services. Earlier this year, we were not even allowed to do those things.

Unfortunately, with all the restrictions, many businesses are closing, homelessness and unemployment are up, and a lot pf people are really hurting and uneasy. However, we know that God has a plan in everything and that great things and miracles often come out of the hard times. With everything negative going on, people are searching and more open to talk about God and spiritual things. We are praying that God will use this difficult situation and use it for His glory here on our island.

Our family is doing great. We were able to move into a smaller house that is in town and a short walk from the church just a couple of weeks ago. Nick and Sam are both getting tall and really love playing basketball. They are both learning the piano, and Nick is also learning the guitar; they have even played in church a few times recently. Christy has to put up with me every day, but she still seems to be happy somehow, and she really loves our island. We just celebrated our 17th anniversary this last week. I am so thankful for my family; they mean the world to me, and they are a huge blessing in the ministry here. God has truly blessed me, and I look forward to what God has in store for us in the coming year!

Thank you for your prayers and support, Markie Bullock