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TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

swedenbound

Melissa Carlson

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Prayer Requests:

- Bibel Baptist Församlingen—church ministry
- Language School—major test on Thursday!
- Contacts: I've had some good contacts/ conversations at language school; pray also for contacts made during Saturday morning outreach; also have made contact with a family in town who may be interested in attending church
- Church Camp: starts June 2nd
- Continued adjustment—though things have been going really well! Praise the Lord!
- For health—a lot of sickness going around here

Dear Praying Friends!

Happy Spring! At least, it's trying hard to be spring here :) It's an on-going process! Some days it's winter, other days it's beautiful and sunny! But I still love it!

This past month has gone by so fast! It's been a whirl-wind of studying Swedish, being involved in ministry, making new contacts, and growing friendships! God has truly blessed!

Language School

I have really enjoyed being in language school! I've been working really hard on the language, and it's exciting to see progress! It's so fun to be able to communicate :) It's so easy to take simple communication for granted! Please pray for me, though. I have a huge language test on Thursday! Please pray that I'll be able to do well and recall what I've been studying! I tend to get stressed with tests, so please pray for calmness!

Contacts

It's amazing to see how God opens doors! I got an email from a pastor in CA a couple of weeks ago. Turns out he has cousins here in Jönköping and was looking for a good church to point them toward! He found my information online and we were able to communicate

back and forth some. We swapped contact information and a couple of days later I was having fika at the mall with one of his cousins here in Jönköping (which we did all in Swedish!)! There is interest there - please pray that these folks will be able to make it out to church!

Pray also for my friends at language school! We've been able to have some good conversations despite the language barriers! Pray for more opportunities to share Christ! Pray specifically for a girl in my class from Cuba. We ride the bus together sometimes after class. She also has contact with another lady in the church—someone who speaks Spanish! This girl is about to have a baby (in about a month or so)! And she has also expressed interest in coming to church sometime. That would be really great—and we have a lot of Spanish speakers in our church! Please pray for her!

Ministry

I continue to be involved in the music ministry at the church. I love it! I'm still adjusting to finding hymns in a foreign language, but it's coming! I have several projects to work on along those lines—some songs that need the music/chords written out, possible special music

for Easter, etc.

I also love being involved in Saturday morning outreach. We're outside in front of the church for about 2 hours every week—handing out tracts and such. A lot of people reject them every week, but others take them—some ask questions, and others walk away reading them. Pray for these folks!

I'm also excited to start a Bible study with one of the teen girls in the church. I ordered some books and they just came in so we should probably start in about a week or so! She was so excited to get the books—she started reading them right away! Pray for this opportunity!

I think that's about all the information I have to share right now! Certainly there will be more to come!

Thanks so much for all your prayers, notes of encouragement, emails, support! You're all a blessing to me! And for those who have sent cards to me here in Sweden, thank you so much! I am working on getting replies done! Forgive my delay!

Thanks again!

For Christ Alone,
 Melissa Carlson

Jer. 32:27