



REFLECTIONS FROM A FINNISH WINTER

Hi Friends,

We hope this letter finds you well! We are grateful for your ongoing support of our ministry here in Finland and across Northern Europe. You are truly making a difference. Thank you!

We'll be honest with you... we are more than ready for spring. After 8 years in Finland, we should know by now that winters can be long and dark, but this year we truly had a proper Finnish winter with temperatures dropping below -30°F. So, physically and mentally we are ready to see the sun again!

While we're eager for warmer days (or climates), what remains clear and unclouded is our missions mandate. Actually, being aware of seasonal changes can be a good thing as it help us to anticipate, prepare for and make good use of every season we face. The same is true spiritually, as well.

Similarly, it's what Jesus told a crowd of followers in Luke 12:54-56. The people could discern meteorological changes, but were totally oblivious to the spiritual winds shifting before their eyes, a seismic shift really. Through Jesus' arrival, the kingdom of God was breaking through, and with it a whirlwind of change, a new spiritual weather pattern so to speak. Jesus described this new spiritual season in Luke 4:18-19 as one where the good news is preached and prisoners are set free, where sight is given to the blind and oppression taken away. Now, I'll take that type of weather over a sunny day at the beach any day! How about you?

We know that God has good things on the horizon here in Finland and across Northern Europe. Without a doubt, God's forecast couldn't be brighter. So, let's embrace every season, looking to Jesus with expectant hearts. After all, if we look up, we'll see that the heavens are opening, the wind of the Spirit is moving... and that's a very good sign indeed.

Love, Stephen & Sonia

MINISTRY UPDATES FROM NORTHERN EUROPE



1 - We regularly lead a discipleship group that is making an impact in several lives; **2** - Connecting with our missionary team serving in Ireland/N. Ireland; **3** - While in Ireland, we had the opportunity to minister in one of the church plants; **4** - Traveling across Ireland and learning about the spiritual needs here; **5** - While recently in England, Stephen was able to drive on the left side of the road for the first time. We survived!; **6** - Recently in Dublin, Ireland for their national pastor's conference; **7** - We enjoy so much connecting and supporting our missions team in Northern Europe. Pictured with the Fishers in England.

MORE FAMILY & MINISTRY MOMENTS



1 - We had a great Christmas celebrating with our family in Nashville, TN; **2** - It may be winter, but the trains offer a hot cup of coffee; **3** - It was a delight to be at the national pastors conference in Stockholm, Sweden; **4** - Supporting and connecting with fellow colleagues in Ireland; **5** - Recently, the election of the next national leader for Ireland/N. Ireland. So thankful for our national partners; **6** - Sonia and I celebrated 20 years of marriage in January. Yes, it was cold!; **7** - If you've ever seen BBC's *Pride & Prejudice*, you'll recognize this as Pemberley; **8** - Scan the QR code for a video greeting to watch or share.

PRAISE REPORTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for our **funding** as our travel commitments have increased greatly since becoming Area Directors here in Northern Europe.
- Pray for Sonia as she will be speaking at a **women's conference** in Wales and Iceland. Pray for Stephen as he also ministers in Finland and in N. Europe.
- Pray for **new workers** to come and serve in Northern Europe

SUPPORT INFORMATION

Please note that the AG Giving website has been updated to make it easier for you to partner with us. Thank you for your support!

Give Online:
stephenandsonia.com