

# Benson Banner - February 2018

Joshua 3:4 "Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before..."

Firsts! Have you recently experienced something for the first time? How did it make you feel? The first time moving to another country, is a huge first. The people of Israel crossed over into the promised land after 40 years in the desert. God prepared them to enter the promised land, gave instructions on how to travel and where to go, but not *how* they were going to cross the Jordan River. As they saw the barrier of the river in front of them, with no boat available, it was a monumental step faith to believe that God would go before them as he promised.

MissionPREP training helps missionaries learn to depend upon the Spirit of Jesus in their journey as they transition to a place **they have never been before**. It took a miracle for the people of Israel to cross into the promised land and it takes multiple miracles for missionaries to cross into their new culture and settle 'on the other side'. Our team of facilitators at MissionPREP play an important role in helping prepare missionaries as they go.



Here's a recent testimony from an alumni couple:

*Hi There,*

*It is fairly common for either of us to say, "Well, when we were at MissionPREP they said . . ." The reality is that the MissionPREP course had a big impact on our understanding of mission work. It was a seminal experience for us and as we live into what we learned we are continually reminded of things we heard then that may not have rung our bell quite as clearly as they do now. We are really grateful for our two weeks there and commend it highly to anyone considering attending a course. This, of course, is to say nothing of the transformational experience of eating authentic poutine.*

*Blessings from A MissionPREP alumni safely landing in Cuba*

## Thanks for joining us in Prayer for...

- Dependence on God's Spirit as we prepare for the upcoming MissionPREP courses
  - PLANTS language acquisition: Feb 5-16
  - IMPACT pre-field missionary training: Feb 26 – March 9<sup>th</sup>
- More students to join us for IMPACT
- Our team of facilitators involved in helping prepare missionaries and their children
- MP participants learning to be like Jesus in their attitudes, behaviours and character as they are sent by Jesus cross-culturally
- Curriculum revision for IMPACT: Wisdom and direction for the MissionPREP team of 7

Recently we have experienced some firsts in our own family- our granddaughter, Ana-Sofia, celebrated her 1st birthday. Ben, our son-in-law, started his first week of his electrical apprenticeship. Charity, starts back to work in February after her maternity leave. Chara had her first trip to Florida during Christmas break.

We're thankful to God for his presence in all these firsts, just as he promised.

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