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**Fresh news from the Morris family**

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## ***News from the Morris family***

**October 2023**



Dear Bill,

Do you know why the Lord Jesus first says, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth," before saying, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them..." (Matthew 28:18-19)? How effective would your ministry be if Jesus did not have all authority in heaven and earth?

In October, **60 SIM missionaries** in **27 countries** attended a training program on the spiritual battle co-hosted by Richard and the Rev. Bill Jones. The participants worked on those questions and other group exercises during the three-hour program, which is based on four affirmative statements about the spiritual battle:

- The contexts of mission are always a spiritual battlefield.
- Spiritual powers are real.
- Because of Christ's victory, we have authority over demons.
- We can live and serve without fear.

I (Richard) want to thank Ken B. and Anna P. from SIM International and our good friend Bill Jones for all their advice and contributions. A special mention goes to Valérie for all her prayers, ideas, and support during the many weeks it took me to write everything!

### **PRAISE AND PRAYER**

- Praise for the Lord's authority in heaven and on earth, enabling us to advance His Kingdom.
- Praise for all the positive feedback we received.
- Pray for the Lord to open doors for this training to be given to other Christians, missionaries, or churches (in English or French).

### **CAN I REALLY FORGIVE?**

"For some types of pain or trauma, healing comes through medical care. But for others, healing comes through an act of forgiveness. However, healing requires understanding what forgiveness is and then moving from theory to practice."

These words come from a conference Richard recently gave. Every Tuesday evening during the school year, the Catholic parish of Orange organizes weekly conferences with various themes and speakers. Knowing that Richard is an Evangelical pastor, the organizers gave him "carte blanche" to talk for an hour about forgiveness. As well as speaking on what helps us forgive, he showed how the forgiveness Christians give to others is grounded in the forgiveness God offers us in Jesus Christ.

### **PRAYER AND PRAYER**

- Praise for this opportunity to talk about God's forgiveness and how to forgive those who have offended us.
- Praise that the organizers enjoyed it so much that Richard will be invited back next year!
- Pray for fruit in the lives of those who attended the conference or listened to the recording. Pray they will accept the central and unique place of Jesus in the forgiveness that God the Father offers us.

## SUPPORT SITUATION

SIM France's fiscal year just closed, and we were at **100%** of required support! We are very grateful for the Lord's provision through the financial gifts from the churches and donors who support our ministry. This year, donations came from:

- Two churches in France and one in the United States.
- A small number of French, British, and American donors.
- Contributions from those we counseled or advised.
- Participation fees for the "Bringing to Freedom" training course.
- Other occasional donations.

However, in this new fiscal year, we are facing two important changes:

- The "Bringing to Freedom" course will not be offered (lack of support: **\$ 430 (£ 375)/month**).
- One French church has informed us they will stop their support (lack of support: **\$ 180 (£ 145)/month**).

Please pray for the Lord to lead us to those He has prepared to meet this need fully. Donations can be occasional, monthly, or once a year.

## WE DIDN'T SAY IT!

Due to its confidential nature, we can't always mention some of our counseling and consulting work. But to give you an idea of some of the things we deal with, here is a sampling of what we've recently heard:

"While studying to become a chiropractor, I learned how to use occult practices to heal my patients. What do I have to do to renounce the occult part of my training?" (A Christian chiropractor)

"The path of faith is our spiritual ascension to Jesus. Jesus came to re-inculcate the true values that humanity had lost." (A new convert very unclear about faith)

"Curious about a therapy called "family constellations," I attended a workshop. Soon after it started, I started feeling more and more ill at ease and sick. Can you tell me if there is something occult behind this therapy?" (A Christian psychotherapist)

Please pray for the Lord to continue giving us wisdom and discernment for this part of our ministry. Thank you also for your prayers for our ministry and those we serve.

Richard and Valérie



To support our ministry from the **US**, tax-deductible gifts can be made payable to: SIM USA, [14830 Choate Circle, Charlotte, NC 28273](#).

To support our ministry from the **UK**, your gifts can be made payable to: SIM UK, [6 Trust Court, Histon, Cambridge, CB24 9PW](#).

## YouTube channel

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