

# Prayer Update – January 2025

*Loving God – bringing His transformation with young people in challenging places*



## Reflection

### **Daniel 1: 8**

But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.

Following a life of nobility in Jerusalem as part of the royal court of Jehoiakim, Daniel has been thrust into the bitter reality of captivity. He is at the start of the rest of his life in rather a more profound way than experiencing the turn of a new year.

King Jehoiakim's court has been openly opposed to God's laws – in fact the king burned a scroll prepared for him by the prophet Jeremiah. Although he had opportunity to follow his father Josiah's righteous example (Jeremiah 22:15-16), Jehoiakim turned to evil. Jeremiah described him as a presumptuous ruler who abused his own people (Jeremiah 22:13-14) and persecuted and murdered God's servants.

Amazing then that Daniel has responded so well to God's discipline and determined that he will follow the example of Josiah in taking Israel's God and his Law seriously. No bitterness at what he's lost, no sulking silliness. Daniel starts afresh in Babylon with a resolve to follow God. In the incredible years ahead he will see Babylonian emperor Nebuchadnezzar gain faith in the Living God, and will ensure that honour for God and justice as a result of knowing him characterise the later years of Nebuchadnezzar's reign.

So, at the start of this fresh New Year we at Amor Europe are resolving afresh to take God's word seriously, to conduct our lives in ways that please him, especially in working for justice and bringing godly influence.

## 1. Thanksgiving

### **1. EQUIP Training Children's Workers**

- Amazing swift progress by Ray's team in translation of the latest training materials into French in time for a programme in West Africa during February.

### **2. PURE**

- A highly effective expedition to Soma in The Gambia – further into the country in response to what we believed God was saying. The first Rwanda expedition in 2025 is now fully booked. Flight tickets are well priced and the team is excitedly preparing to travel in June.
- PAD – committed to eliminating period poverty – has benefitted greatly from Jane's leadership. We thank God for her, for the first expedition coming up, and for PAD parties that sew pads.
- The Kingdom Commerce model of WaSH interventions in Burkina Faso has begun. Here the work is organised on an affordable commercial basis, enabling huge expansion and providing dignifying work.

### **3. Engine Room**

- Our finances in 2024 were better than we expected and although we ran a planned deficit budget, we are in a healthier position than we were prepared for.
- Digital communications have been wonderfully enhanced by the arrival of Molly on our team.
- Safeguarding and Health and safety systems are working well.

### **4. BUILD Justice Expeditions**

- We were directly involved in building 6 houses in 2024 in Mexico (2), Moldova (1) Kenya (1) and South Africa (2).
- Molly has joined the BUILD team

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## 2. Needs

### 1. **EQUIP Overseas Partnerships**

- We plan to send teams to West Africa, East Africa (2), Sri Lanka, and South Asia in the first half of 2025. Pray for safety and smooth logistics and especially for wonderful children's clubs to be launched – where kids can find and follow Jesus.
- Our annual Taster Weekend happens Jan 31- Feb 2. Here we hope to recruit new members to the excellent Global Trainers team.

### 2. **PURE**

- Pray for more sponsors and therefore more families released from dangerous water ill health.
- Scaling up for the kingdom Commerce WaSH (clean water, sanitation and hygiene) project in Burkina Faso. Fair taxation, excellent logistics, high levels of spiritual health along with physical health benefits.
- Further growth for PAD which seeks to lift women out of period poverty.

### 3. **House Building Justice Expeditions**

- BUILD is catching its breath as Molly settles into the role of leading the team. Pray for her as she sets the course for the future.
- Recruitment of team members to IF – a house building adventure for men in November 2025.
- Future BUILD trips in 2026 – Moldova, South Africa X 2
- Partnerships – we are working with a national youth organisation, and 2 school set-ups.

## 3. Charity Building

**Walk the World** We are doing a series of Big Walks to raise funds Amor Europe and for those in extreme hunger and need.

**Road Less Travelled** Joey leads this team which is committed to encouraging everyone involved with Amor Europe to take the hard road of personal spiritual growth by obeying God and prioritising his ways.

**Trustees** – Trustees meet in March, June and October. Good governance is essential to good work.

### Recruitment

- Our trustees are recruiting. We have lost a beloved trustee (Gayla) to ill-health. We have 2 new incoming UK Trustees and one from the USA. Team members for all our teams
- We need a data officer
- Participants for PURE, BUILD teams

**INSPIRE** - An evening with Amor Europe. We are heading for Walsall around April 5. It would be great to do a few more such events this year.

**Funding** – We would love to expand more – especially EQUIP and PAD. Please pray that we are able to attract Kingdom investment from individuals and bodies that would love to help.