Episode 21

Faith in Action

GRANT AND SHERRY ATKINSON – GERMANY

NARRATOR: The views and opinions expressed here are those of the guests and are not the official position of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

[BEGIN MUSIC]

PRES. THOMAS S. MONSON (QUOTE): I extol those who, with loving care and compassionate concern, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and house the homeless. He who notes the sparrow’s fall will not be unmindful of such service.

NARRATOR: The Mormon Channel now presents Faith in Action.

HOST: Welcome back to Faith in Action on the Mormon Channel, a show about welfare, humanitarian aid and service around the world.

[END MUSIC]

HOST: Today we welcome Grant and Sherry Atkinson who served in Germany as LDS Family Services missionaries. Welcome, Brother and Sister Atkinson.

GRANT ATKINSON: Thank you.

SHERRY ATKINSON: Thank you.

HOST: And let’s qualify that. You were stationed in Germany but traveled through most of Europe?

GRANT ATKINSON: We lived in Frankfurt, that’s where our office and apartment were, but then we were out on assignments throughout the countries of Europe.

HOST: Let’s start, let’s go back just a little bit about what you’ve done in the Church and your occupations and the decision to serve a mission. Is this something specifically that you wanted to do or is this something they asked you to do as far as this type of mission?

SHERRY ATKINSON: I think we’ve always had a desire to serve a mission. I think coming from ancestors and family members who had the opportunity to serve and we have a rich legacy of serving missions—my parents had a desire to take Spanish 1. They took Spanish 1 for seven years, ended up serving three Spanish-speaking missions, which was a great confidence to us and ability to serve missions and grandmothers served missions and our desire grew as we saw our children serve, we realized this opportunity then as he retired.

GRANT ATKINSON: It’s something we had talked about even before we were married while we were dating that the time would come when we would have that opportunity.
HOST: Give us a little bit of your background, Brother Atkinson. What have you done?

GRANT ATKINSON: Well, as a professional, I’ve done a couple of things. I worked for 37 years in the public schools in the state of Utah—first as an instructor and then as a guidance counselor in high schools—and during that time I also was a licensed masonry contractor and did a little building on the side to support the family…

HOST: Very interesting.

GRANT ATKINSON: And also to teach sons how to work.

HOST: When we talk about serving a mission—we have a lot of people that will e-mail me and say, “Tell us a little bit about the people you’re talking to.” The decision was made that you’re going to go on a mission. Do you talk to the bishop first and then to the stake president? What is the procedure to get this ball rolling for someone?

GRANT ATKINSON: Well, the way it should be done is that you have a desire to serve and you make that known to the bishop. The bishop then will give you access to the Church’s website where you can fill out an application, and those are all taken care of electronically in this age. And once it’s filled out, then the bishop puts his recommendation with it, he forwards that to the stake president who in turn reviews the information, puts his recommendation and then sends it to the Church for processing.

HOST: Is there a time, an opportunity that you have to say, “I’d like to go here or do this” or is it just completely left up to the Lord’s hands?

GRANT ATKINSON: You can make that known to both the bishop and the stake president and they can put that in the recommendation. But the bottom line is that you’re willing to serve wherever you’re called; and some put in papers with expectations that they will go to a certain place that they have asked to go and that will not be the result of the call. Our feeling was that the Lord is much wiser than we and we were just wholly relying upon those who make calls and extend calls and were confident that that comes through the Spirit. And we wanted to serve wherever the Lord wanted us to be.

HOST: You get the envelope in the mail that says you’re being called; I would assume it just says you are going to Frankfurt. Did it explain what exactly you were going to do? Did you know at that point or is it something that kind of evolved after the calling was made?

SHERRY ATKINSON: We read that we were called to the Europe Area and not really understanding the Europe Area, I assumed we were called to the mission in Germany until our children reread our call and defined out for us the Europe Area and so then we did a little research on the Europe Area, but the call actually gives you some background, some instruction, some direction in who you will report to and what you will be doing and it brings you some comfort as you read that and see the signature of the President of the Church there.

GRANT ATKINSON: We have a little tradition in our family that when a mission call is received—and this is for our children as well as our extended family, our brothers, sisters and other relatives—that the family gathers for the time of the opening of the call and we pass around a sheet of paper and everybody takes a guess as to where the missionary may be called to so
we’d done that on this occasion and had our children and grandchildren and some extended family there and as we opened the calls and of course one comes to each, we were both called as missionaries, so we each received an envelope and we opened them together and read down through them together and as Sister Atkinson said, it didn’t really sink in to begin with. I had a meeting that I needed to go to and so it was kind of a rushed thing and we read through and it said LDS Family Services Frankfurt, Germany and then I put on my coat and went out the door but it wasn’t until I arrived back home that Sister Atkinson said our children had read it a little more carefully and that we were not assigned to a mission. We were assigned to the Europe Area and that made quite a bit a difference, but our place of residence was in Frankfurt where the area office is.

HOST: So you pack up the old bags and jump on an airplane and land in Frankfurt. What is the first day like for you? A little—I’m sure you get there and a little bit jet lag, but did somebody pick you up? The mission president picks you up? Who is there to get you?

SHERRY ATKINSON: Well, as we were flying over Germany and headed towards Frankfurt, I had tears. I kept thinking that this would be our home for the next 18 months, these would be the people that we would live among, these would be the people we would learn to love and to serve and they in turn would serve us and teach us many things and I was a little apprehensive but had a calm as we flew over and landed, and a peace. We were met at the airport by a couple that served next to us. They were the humanitarian missionaries. We became good friends with them. They showed us the town, they showed us our apartment, they taught us how to shop, showed us the area office where we met people and because of the difference in time, they kept us up as late as they could (laughing), which was only until about four o’clock in the afternoon, but they were very good. We were anxious to see as much as we could that day. It was an exciting day.

GRANT ATKINSON: They gave us a great introduction, so it’s something, again, if someone’s listening and thinking about this, you are just thrown into this, there is some guidance every step of the way that makes you comfortable, makes you feel like this is okay, we are going to be alright with this.

SHERRY ATKINSON: Yes you are. After we received our call, we actually heard from our directors in Germany. They telephoned us, they talked with us and told us what to expect, what to bring, did we have any questions, could they help us answer any problems that we had, were very helpful and supportive, that was a good experience.

GRANT ATKINSON: We never felt like we were out on a limb. The area office sent a little packet of information and explained much of the procedures and what would be taking place while we were there so we felt very comfortable walking into it. Probably one of the great hesitations was, here we are English speakers, no German background, we had taken a few courses, classes to become familiar with German but wondered, you know, how are we gonna get along in a country where we don’t speak the language, and we found not only in Germany but as we moved around throughout the countries of Europe that most people speak English and we had no difficulty at all with language and felt very comfortable, very safe and very well prepared for the programs that we worked with.
SHERRY ATKINSON: I felt that going through the MTC gave us the ability and the strength to feel capable of what we would be called to. That was a wonderful spiritual experience being at the MTC and receiving training there in our specific area, meeting with the missionaries that we would replace, meeting with Salt Lake and some of the people in the areas in headquarters of areas that we would be working with. They helped to answer our questions, helped to instruct us and helped to set some goals which we thought were very helpful.

HOST: You’re listening to Faith in Action on the Mormon Channel. Today we are visiting with Brother and Sister Atkinson who recently served as LDS Family Services missionaries in the Europe Area. This is a new program? Is that correct? Were you kind of breaking ground here in this calling?

GRANT ATKINSON: We were. There had been two sets of missionaries prior to us who would work with Family Services. Family Services had been around for a long time in the Church but Europe does not enjoy the same level of service that we do here in Utah or even throughout the United States. Throughout the Europe Area, there are 114 stakes and about 42 districts and to service all of those, there are three paid professional therapists to provide mental health therapy for members and supportive priesthood leaders. All three of those are in England among the 45 stakes that are there. On the continent, there are none, and so a pilot project program was begun in order to give support to priesthood leaders. Not to take from them their ability and their keys of counsel and the wisdom that comes through their callings but rather when mental health problems escalate beyond what a bishop feels comfortable with, he then has someone reliable—a licensed insured therapist—that they can turn to to get some help for members of the Church. Hopefully that that person would be a member of the Church that does the therapy and then when a person is able to get their emotional needs back to a state that the bishop can then continue with them, that’s the goal of Family Services in Europe.

HOST: So you’re working then with priesthood leaders mostly, not the members themselves. Is that correct?

GRANT ATKINSON: That is true. Just letting the priesthood leaders know what’s available.

HOST: Yes. And what is available from the Church now for Europeans?

GRANT ATKINSON: In the way of mental health, there have been some councils or agencies—Family Services agencies—established there. Initially they were a pilot program and the Church watched them carefully to see how productive they were and how well they met the priesthood leaders’ needs and now it has greater acceptance among the Brethren and the okay to push it forward. In essence, what occurs is that the regions of the Europe Area are divided according to cultures and language. For example, there is a Nordic agency that serves Finland, Norway, Denmark and Sweden and there’s one person—most of them are therapists but also one is an experienced priesthood leader who come together one from each of these countries and they form an agency, and they are responsible for the formation of resources within their country that can serve bishops and support and sustain them and so they research and find other LDS licensed insured therapists who will form
committees to which bishops can refer members when there is a need for mental health counseling beyond what the bishop can do.

HOST: How about the sisters? Sister Atkinson, did you work with Relief Society? What was your role in this mission?

SHERRY ATKINSON: I felt that my role was to help support these committees, these councils and agencies and in turn when they would have need, we would come back and find approved Church resources. For instance, we had a call for an abuse package and when we came back to that we found that the Church had put out an abuse package and it came to the United States and to Canada with reference that it could be translated into other languages, and so that request was made so that this abuse package could then go to other languages and other countries and that was approved and was endowed.

HOST: It would be very rewarding to see the response of this, to see the results of the callings that you had.

GRANT ATKINSON: It was. We felt a lot of comfort and enjoyment and I think a lot of our enjoyment came from working so closely with the Saints throughout Europe, such good and faithful members of the Church, just a joy to meet with and talk with and feel of their spirit, so full of enthusiasm for the gospel and wanting to see it grow.

HOST: In your experience, what is the biggest challenge that you are seeing for members in Europe? Is it mental health? Is it alcohol? Is it abuse? I know it’s tough to say but if there’s just one thing that comes to mind, what would it be?

GRANT ATKINSON: I don’t know if I can identify a challenge. The countries of Europe have the same social challenges that we have here. There’s nothing that’s different. We saw the same kinds of behavior take place there and the same pitfalls that people fall into. The growth of the Church there is steady but yet if you look at populations of the Church, it seems to remain flat. One of the challenges that they have is that throughout the Europe Area, they lose one ward—the equivalency of one ward—per month to emigration. Over the course of a year, they lose a stake. And so even though the missionaries are baptizing and doing well, the Church membership seems to stay flat. And that’s because there are so many who leave. Many of them like to come to the United States.

HOST: I must admit I haven’t thought about that. I’m just assuming that we are converted, we join the Church in Germany or in England and we just stay put. But this is not happening…

GRANT ATKINSON: No, it’s not.

HOST: To this day.

GRANT ATKINSON: They see Salt Lake City as a place that they want to come and see—even the ones who are content with staying at home, and there are many because Europe is a wonderful place to live. They all have a desire to come to what they think is Zion, they want to come to the headquarters of the Church where you can drive down the streets and within blocks see the steeples of chapels here and there, where many of these people drive two
or two-and-a-half hours to get to church. They want to come and see where the center of the Church is, the strength of the Church, and so many of them save for that opportunity.

HOST: You’re listening to Faith in Action on the Mormon Channel. Today we’re visiting with Brother and Sister Atkinson who recently served an LDS Family Services mission in the Europe Area, stationed in Frankfurt, Germany. So you’re in the office on Tuesday morning. Do you get a call and say, “Come see us in Paris” or “Come see us in London” or how does that work for you?

SHERRY ATKINSON: (laughing)

GRANT ATKINSON: Well, it often worked that way. We stayed in Frankfurt until we were extended an invitation. In addition to member mental health, probably the main thrust of our missionary service was in the area of addiction recovery, something that we really had not anticipated when we left. As we were in the MTC, a couple who was in charge of addiction recovery throughout the Church, Elder and Sister Anderson, who are local missionaries but supervise addiction recovery missionaries throughout the world, met with us and kind of set a goal that we would establish five addiction recovery groups while we were there. We really didn’t have any inkling that that’s kind of the direction we would go but really that is where we spent most of our time.

HOST: Define addiction recovery for me. What exactly is the program? How does it work?

GRANT ATKINSON: Well, addiction recovery is an LDS program that’s based upon Alcoholics Anonymous that was begun in the 1930s. It’s a 12-step program. The difference between the LDS recovery 12 steps and Alcoholics Anonymous is that this one is faith-based on the Lord Jesus Christ and identifies Him specifically and how to draw near unto Him and to cast your burdens upon the Lord whereas Alcoholics Anonymous is more of a God-based, not pinpointing the Atonement. But it is a very successful program. To me, addictions, and there is both a—I think—a spiritual and a non-spiritual definition of what an addiction is; the non-spiritual definition is when a person takes drugs, alcohol or is involved with pornography and it’s out of control. For me, the spiritual definition is the definition that comes from the war in heaven before this earth was ever established, that the battle there and that war really took place over agency, whether we would follow the plan that was given by our Father in Heaven and sustained by His Son, Jesus Christ or whether we would succumb to the plan of Lucifer where he would force us all to return back to our Father in Heaven and not one soul would be lost, and to me, an addiction is whenever a person loses the ability to exercise their agency for good and useful purposes and substances, behaviors, enter into that, and a person for me who becomes an addict is one who engages in a behavior or a substance to the point where they no longer have the ability to choose. They have lost their agency and to regain that, they really must focus and look towards the Savior and His Atonement, which is universal, and He welcomes all to come unto Him. As we humble ourselves and work towards giving up our sins, we form that relationship with Him and we can regain our ability to choose.

HOST: You receive a call from a bishop or a stake president or whomever and they say, “We need some help.” Do you go into the area and just set the program up or what exactly did you do in the area?
GRANT ATKINSON: What we found to be very successful—and addiction recovery did not exist in Europe when we arrived—, there was a pilot program that was taking place at an Air Force base in Germany. There was a pilot program by one of the stakes in the area, and then there were some pockets—there were some people here and there who were trying to help people who were addicts, but it wasn’t organized the way addiction recovery ought to be organized as sponsored by the Church. So what we found worked best was to work with priesthood leaders, and we would start with the Area Seventy who was in charge of an area, tell him that we were there to support his bishops and stake presidents and would like to work among them and introduce them to addiction recovery materials and let them decide if it’s something that they wanted in their stakes and wards. With his blessing and approval we would then contact the stake presidents and tell them of the information which we had which included about a 20-minute slide presentation and then a question-and-answer period that was open-ended as far as time goes so that we could meet whatever schedule they had. As stakes would respond and say, yes, we would like to have you come and make that presentation, we would try to organize, you know, stakes in a particular country so that once we were there, we could visit with three or four different groups in order to conserve Church resources and our time, and we found that that worked very well, and we would introduce addiction recovery to them and then leave it up to the stake president who holds the keys of salvation—both temporally and spiritually—to every person who lives within the boundaries of their stake, whether they are members of the Church or not to determine if they needed addiction recovery services within their stake and almost without exception, they said that they did. And we had materials that would help them, we could come back then and train people who could work as facilitators and group leaders and they would begin their programs. During 2009, we visited with about 45 stakes and districts in that amount of time—some of them two or three times—, training priesthood leaders and then facilitators and group leaders and at the time we left there were about 20 addiction recovery groups operating in Europe and more who were in the process of establishing their groups.

SHERRY ATKINSON: There were four running in the Netherlands and it was not in their language yet. What a great admiration we had for these people that were working through this program and it was not in their language and then as we returned home, the language came through. Now the request has been made and they are being translated, addiction recovery is being translated into all the languages and so all the countries there will have access to this information once it’s translated. Then the program can begin.

HOST: Because of your really breaking ground here, did you get a chance—were you there long enough to hear some success stories? Did you ever meet people that had gone through the programs and what was your feeling about that?

SHERRY ATKINSON: Well, they were just heart-wrenching. Some of the difficult things that we saw were victims. Parents can be victims, a spouse can be a victim, children can be victims, and to see a program that brings healing and hope and then to watch recovery come, what a great miracle that was for us to see as people took hold of that and the program and through the Atonement of Jesus Christ, they were humbled and came to Him and through group support, they healed and brought them back and we even had groups where nonmembers attended. Probably our biggest groups were the pornography groups that
they struggled with. Just as we needed materials, Salt Lake would send materials. It just seemed that doors were opening, that help was coming for people. After we would do a conference or a workshop, we would have people come up that wanted to relate their story to us. They were heart-wrenching as you listened to these people, to the struggles which they had gone through and to the hope which now they envisioned and which they saw coming which would help them, and that was just a blessing because you could see what was coming for them.

GRANT ATKINSON: After making a presentation in Finland—and we found this happens on several occasions—people who were called to serve in local addiction recovery programs had felt the promptings of the Spirit that they were going to be called to be of service to someone and one brother after a presentation in Helsinki came to us and said, I had a dream or a vision if that’s what you would like to call it that I was going to be called to a position where I could serve people. And he said, when that call came to me, I immediately thought of two brethren who I wanted to call and invite to come to addiction recovery and they were brethren who had had some church action taken against their membership because of their behavior, and four, five months later in an e-mail exchange, he reported to us that these brethren had been making tremendous progress, that they had been working with their bishops as well as working through these steps of addiction recovery and that now both of them through their bishop had regained their blessings to return to the temple and had their recommends renewed and were faithfully attending the temple and receiving those blessings for them and their families.

HOST: So you had the blessing of seeing this almost from the ground up, just seeing the growth and the successes, and since you have left, have you heard what’s happening? Do you kind of keep in touch with what’s happening with the program now?

GRANT ATKINSON: We get some e-mails now and again from those that we were in contact with and things seem to still be going well. We had an opportunity to meet with the couple who replaced us and they are working hard. Currently—in fact, even today, right today—they are traveling Spain and Portugal in an effort to organize a Family Services agency in Spain and Portugal, which will be the fourth one, will be the fourth one in the Europe Area. There is a newsletter that goes out from the area office. We instigated that as a way to keep in contact with priesthood leaders so that they would always have in their mind that addiction recovery was available and that there were some resources to help their members if they desired. That is continuing. Our manager there who was William Blaco, manager of Family Services in the Europe Area, has picked up that newsletter and continued to make sure that it’s published and sent out and then we had another—this was inspiration to Sister Atkinson—another way to contact members and make them aware particularly of addiction recovery. Most of the countries in Europe have a country newspaper and they have a country website where they can post things there besides lds.org that we have Church-wide. They have their own country newspaper and we recognize that most of the resources for members of the Church are in English but there are many members who don’t speak English and so Sister Atkinson came up with a good thought that would help those in these other countries where they do not speak English, and that was to post addiction recovery information on their website in their language. And so we talked with Family Services here in Salt Lake City to get their approval, also
talked with Public Affairs out of the Europe office and also with the legal entities in Europe to make sure that that was okay and they all gave us the go ahead and so an article was written which would catch the interest of people in any country concerning addiction recovery. It was translated into their languages and then posted on each country website with a link that if you would like additional information about addiction recovery or if you would like to know the locations near you where addiction recovery meetings are currently operating, they could click on that link and get that information in their own language.

HOST: Would we find this now in most major European capitals? Certainly not out in the countryside but where would I find if I were listening today—and we have listeners throughout Europe—, how would I find the nearest to me?

GRANT ATKINSON: The easiest way is to go to providentliving.org and click on the link that’s over on the right-hand side for addiction recovery programs and then it will list all of the programs that are available in each country throughout the world. And it will also put the times and locations. England has about 20 programs running itself, in the large cities as well as some out in the smaller areas and now Europe has them in most of the large centers and it continues to grow, but there are some that also work in small areas. Even though they are run and operated by stakes, they are not confined to stake boundaries. I mean, it’s okay to go to another stake to a meeting. We had an excellent example of that from this pilot program that was running on an Air Force base. A young man who had an addiction was catching the train and riding an hour and a half one way. A brother would come off of the Air Force base, pick him up at the train station, get him on to the base, hold their meeting for an hour or an hour and a half and then take him back to the train station and he’d ride another hour and a half back home—a real commitment to attend addiction recovery. After about six months of that, he became what—I don’t know if you ever call it cured—but the Church tries to teach self-reliance in many areas, and this young man had come to the point where he was now self-reliant. He could manage his addiction on his own. He had his agency back and could choose whether or not he wanted to engage in this addiction which he had, which was pornography. And he was able to remain free of that addiction based upon his own choices and behaviors. As soon as his stake president who was aware that he was attending these groups saw the progress that he was making, he then extended a call to him to serve as a group leader and facilitator, as a facilitator in their stake and they began a program. Well, they didn’t have it running but about two months when another brother who lived about two hours away by train didn’t want to go to a group in his stake because of not wanting people to know what his difficulty was so he became willing to catch the train, ride it for two hours, attend the meeting, ride back home, and we feel confident that when he reaches that point of self-reliance again, his stake president will call him to facilitate a group in his area and so it continues to grow. The spirit of addiction recovery and people being made whole and becoming self-reliant and their life self-directing and relying upon the Savior is alive and well in Europe.

HOST: We’ve talked about addiction recovery, just one of the situations that you dealt with. Give us kind of an overview of all of the problems, the things that you addressed in this mission.
GRANT ATKINSON: Well, our focus seemed to be in two areas, which was member mental health that here in the United States is handled through LDS Family Services and typically professionally trained and licensed therapists, some employed by the Church, where Europe does not enjoy that level of service. The membership is not as concentrated there as it is here and so these Family Services agencies were begun, one in the Nordic countries, one in the Germanic-speaking countries and we also added the Netherlands to that one and then one in England that just was organized this last October. And as I mentioned, the couple who replaced us are currently, this very day, traveling Spain and Portugal, finding therapists and meeting with stake presidencies to inform them of how Family Services can benefit their members, and that group will be formed in the next just few months. And then we’ve also worked with addiction recovery, which was the most, the greatest thrust of our time, but there are also other programs that deal with strengthening marriages and strengthening families. There are Sunday School courses that address those topics, but through Family Services, there are some intense non-Sunday, non-Sunday-School classes which are more therapeutic. They are more challenging, they are more—the person who is teaching the class conducts it more as a therapy situation. It is for people who are in crisis, who are having real serious challenges with marriages that may be falling apart or children who are out of control to help families strengthen themselves. The Church is currently revising its manuals for that and they are expected late in this year to come out. Some of the stakes in Europe are utilizing that format to strengthen marriages and strengthen families.

HOST: These are issues that we know about in the U.S. and we know they are being addressed by the Church in the U.S. and it’s comforting to know that it’s just spreading around the world, that the Church is seeing the difficulties and the problems and the problem not only there but here and there is help in the United States if you are suffering these situations and who do I contact, is it the bishop that would get this started in my home ward? Or how would I find some help?

GRANT ATKINSON: That would be the place to go. The bishop on the local level holds the keys to the temporal and spiritual salvation of each of his souls that resides within the boundaries of his ward, and as such, he is entitled to the inspiration and guidance of the Lord and how to help each of those people. He also has been trained and is aware of programs that can be drawn upon by priesthood leaders. Family Services is a resource, it’s not there as a, this is what you’ve got to do, bishop, it is there to support and sustain, and if a bishop wants to draw upon the resources of Family Services, they can. If they feel comfortable that they can handle life situations as they come around, then they may not invite the need for Family Services.

HOST: Sister Atkinson, I like to ask this at the conclusion of most of the programs. The opportunity to serve is presented and it’s always it would seem like the grandmothers who say, oh, I can’t leave for that long, I have some grandchildren, I can’t… What do you tell them? What kind of a sacrifice is it?

SHERRY ATKINSON: Well, fortunately in Europe you have all kinds of resources. You have the telephone, you have the internet, you have abilities to see grandbabies that were just born over Skype, and that is comforting, but the Lord attends you. I remember at one point I wanted to call my mother—she’s elderly, my parents are elderly—and to see if they were okay.
And I could not get a hold of my mother and I was worried about her and I went to bed that night and during that night I had a dream that I saw her at the temple and she came up and gave me a hug and I literally felt the love she extended to me and the comfort that was there. And I truly believe that the testimony that we gained is a testimony that becomes a part of our children and our grandchildren as they see this sacrifice, the prayers that we render to them, they rendered to us, the testimony that we gain and that we bear, they too become a part of that testimony. I am grateful for this opportunity to serve. I am grateful for our Savior, Jesus Christ. I learned probably that of the love that He has for all of us in whatever situation He finds us in, He has a love for us and the ability to help us if we will but seek Him. I am grateful for that.

HOST: You’ve been listening to Faith in Action on the Mormon Channel.

[BEGIN MUSIC]

HOST: Today we’ve been visiting with Brother and Sister Atkinson who recently served as LDS Family Services missionaries in the Europe Area. Thank you so much for coming by today. We appreciate it.

GRANT ATKINSON: Thank you.

SHERRY ATKINSON: Thank you.

[END MUSIC]