

# McCRACKEN MEMO

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## CONCERT COMMENTS

### Ron Kenoly in Athens

**O**n June 19, 1999, Ron Kenoly led a worship time with 1,500 Greek and international believers in attendance. The concert was sponsored by our **HELPING HANDS** ministry.

Both positive and negative things resulted from the evening:

#### POSITIVE:

\* The concert program happened with **NO PROBLEM** at all, and everyone seemed to enjoy it. We heard comments like these from those who attended: "*It was the best!*", "*We never enjoyed a concert like this before*", "*We thank God for Helping Hands that blessed us so much*"

\* **About 30 people gave their life to the Lord, and many of them were in church the next day!**

#### NEGATIVE:

\* We did **NOT** make **ANY** money with this concert. In fact, for several reasons, we are now about \$8,000 **IN DEBT** because of it.



## FURLOUGH FACTS

### Summer 1999 Schedule:

**Mobile, Alabama from May 30<sup>th</sup> to July 13<sup>th</sup>**

**We can be reached at:**

4230 Thigpen Dr. S.  
Mobile, Al 36693

Tel: 334-666-9645  
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**in Montana from July 13<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>,**

1027 Alderson  
Billings, Montana 59102  
Tel: 406-252-6886  
E-mail: smccrac@ibm.net

**and in Oregon from the 20<sup>th</sup> of July to Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>,**

25268 E. Bolton Rd.  
Venita, OR 97487  
Tel: 541-935-1018  
E-mail: smccrac@ibm.net

## A.R.C. ADVANCES

### Athens Refugee Center (ARC) Opening Soon!

**P**rogress is happening slowly but surely on the A.R.C. All the necessary walls have come down. The 2 bathrooms are almost finished. Much of the electrical wiring is being done. The first coat of paint in the main hall has been put on and the chair guard put up.

Until now, we have been working as God provides the money. We are grateful for our generous and hardworking teammates and for others like you who have been making investments in this strategic ministry facility.

*We are still trying to raise a large amount of money so that it will not only be partially operational by September, but so that it will be "fully" operational by that time.*

## Excerpts From Athens Refugee Ministry Reports:

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:

Today, Halmat shared the story of Jesus and the miraculous catch of fish. I laughed as they all grunted and tugged to "pull in" the many fish. Even though Halmat tells the story in Kurdish, I can always tell where he's at because the kids act it out with him...

It is by the grace of God and the prayers of many faithful friends (you) that we were able to share the stories of Christ's resurrection and crucifixion with these Muslim children. On the 8th we remembered Christ's crucifixion....At the end of the story, I went to Halmat to apologize for the disturbances through which he had to teach. He looked at me like I was talking nonsense. "What distractions?" he asked. For him, it had been one of the most meaningful times he had ever had with the children. He felt like he had truly connected with them. They had even vied for the role of the crucified Christ. Praise God that Satan's distractions fell flat in the face of one of the most awesome stories in history.

The next day we shared the story of the Resurrection! Halmat loves to get the children to chant Jesus' name in answer to his questions. The name of Jesus is being burned into their brains. Now, whenever I hand out a coloring sheet in which Jesus is pictured, I get the children to name him as I go. At the end of class that day, we handed out coloring books with a clear presentation of the gospel and a prayer at the end.

This month we have continued to share the stories following Christ's resurrection. And the children are remembering the stories. Last week, after we shared doubting Thomas' story, one boy drew a picture of Jesus calming the sea, which we told sometime in February. I have been so excited by their enthusiasm for these stories. And I continue to praise God that we even have the opportunity to be at this camp full of Muslim people.

### MINISTRY TO PROSTITUTES:

Jennifer, Emma and I spent a very long time talking with Ellen. Ellen is South African and Greek but she was raised in Switzerland. Presently, she lives on the streets where we do our Saturday night outreach. As we stood and talked, Ellen sang us Bible songs from her childhood and quoted stories from the Bible. She had tears in her eyes as she told us the story of the prodigal son. She knew the story so well, and yet she doesn't believe that she too can return to Jesus.

We gave her a small Bible to carry around with her, and she agreed to meet with us to talk more about the Bible...

...Several people asked for New Testaments (one woman wanted two!). Pray that those who took Bibles and tracts would be prompted to read them this week...

We are looking forward to this Saturday, and to confirming a day and time to begin a new evangelistic Bible study. We are targeting Greek-speaking women for this first group...

We have some other good news for you--**WE HAVE NEGOTIATED A LEASE ON AN APARTMENT TO USE AS A SAFE-HOUSE FOR OUR "LOST COIN" MINISTRY!!** This will provide a place of shelter, safety, and spiritual nourishment for women who want to get off the streets.

### MINISTRY TO KURDS:

Tomorrow morning another man from "The Nest" will be baptized. I met Mohammed at Tea Bar five months ago and he has been in my bible study every week since that time. Two weeks ago he asked to talk, and shared with me that he has put his trust in Jesus. He now knows that God has forgiven all his sins. The fear he had of death and hell is gone.

He asked me not to call him Mohammed any more, but to be given a Christian name. I gave him the name Daniel -- and he loves it. He is eager to learn and is absorbing everything like a sponge.

Halmat, who has been our right hand man for Kurdish ministry the past 1 1/2 years, FINALLY received a visa to go to Australia. He will be departing this June. God always provides for the work. Daniel is being discipled by Halmat to take over his role. PTL.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- *For the balance due in October for the purchase of the A.R.C. (\$7,400)*
- *For renovation costs of the A.R.C. (about \$25,000)*
- *For our brother Halmat as he moves to Australia*
- *For Daniel as he grows in Christ and shares the Gospel with Muslim Kurds*
- *For the debt to be paid after the Ron Kenoly concert*
- *For the children who are hearing the Gospel at the camp (and their parents)*
- *For the Lost Coin ministry as they start a "safe house" ministry and start evangelistic Bible studies*

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**Many thanks to all of you who make this ministry possible through your prayer and financial support! God bless!**