## \* McCRACKEN MEMO \*

Eugene, Oregon

June/July/August 1997

Furlough...has been fun, restful, and encouraging. Although we have not been able to see even half the number of people that we would like to see (due to time and cost limitations), we are thankful for the time we have been able to spend with our **families**, some of our **friends** and **supporters**.

Unbelievable! Of course, for those who believe that God answers prayer it's not so "unbelievable". However, after the new insurance company initially turned down our requests to cover Kyle's laser surgeries, they have reversed their decision and will pay for the one in June! God has even unexpectedly provided the \$1,500 deductible!

Return...We return to Greece on September 8th. Kendra and Cody will start school again on the 15th. Please pray for another good school year with good teachers for the kids. Also, hopefully, we will have two new families joining our team by the end of summer. Please pray for the Grieshabers and the Carlsons to raise their remaining support.

Long time no see...We have been overseas for over 10 years and have never had a prayer card--until now. After many futile attempts over the years to get a useable picture, we finally got one. Please find your copy enclosed and use it as a reminder to pray for us. Stick it on your refrigerator or put it in your Bible or some place where you will regularly see it and be reminded to lift us up in prayer. Thanks!

## Oregon summers are the best!!!

Dpdates...1) Our former Muslim friend who came to know Jesus this past Spring (Vahdat) gave his personal testimony to a room full of over 200 people (most of whom were Muslims). In spite of some opposition, he gave a bold and loving presentation of the Gospel. Two Muslims that we know of gave their hearts to Jesus that night! Please continue to pray for Vahdat's growth, immigration status, and work situation. Please also pray for these new brothers in Christ. 2) The Lord has continued to use my Greek associate Rovertos in our HELPING HANDS ministry as he has worked with us on a part-time basis to share the Gospel with refugees through "mercy ministries". We are praying about asking him to join us on a full-time basis but we need \$130/month more in support for him. 3) Our "Meals of Love and Hope" partnership ministry with Hellenic Ministries was mutually dissolved in May. At that time we were invited by a Greek church in a downtown area to come and use their facilities and train them to do this kind of ministry. This has been going well but the facilities are too small to accommodate all the people who are coming. Please pray that the Lord will provide facilities suitable for these desperate needs! 4) We have about \$4,000 in the Athens Refugee Center fund. Only about \$260,000 more to go before we can purchase the facilities we are praying for!

 $\mathbf{God}...$ continues to show us that He is good--ALL THE TIME, and all the time HE IS GOOD!

Help...Your help is so much appreciated. Together with you, we are taking the Gospel to the nations. We appreciate more than we can express your help through your prayers, gifts, and other forms of encouragement. God bless you as you continue to live for the advancement of His kingdom!

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