

Subj: **Exciting P.S. to Encouraging news**
 Date: 11/2/2005 11:32:45 AM Central Standard Time
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Dear Praying Friends,

A few days ago I sent out a message telling about an Aghan refugee who came to the Lord here in Athens and moved on the Belgium, and then on to Turkey to start a church for Afghans there. The next day, I received an email from my Afghan brother "N" in California who had an update from the brother in Turkey...

Hello my dear brothers,

I heard some very good news from Istanbul today, and wanted to share the story with you.

Yesterday, they had their little fellowship meeting in Turkey. One Afghan man gave his heart to Christ! I spoke with him and with my friend on the phone, and this is his story.

He is 28 years old. In Afghanistan he finished university, and is a judge.

But for the last five years he has been trying to get to Europe. He has been deported more than 15 times, from Greece (once), from Turkey (few times), and from Iran (many times). Last winter he and his friend got caught by the Greek police on his way into Greece. They were sent back to Turkey, and the Turkish government decided to deport them to Iran.

Two soldiers drove the man and his friend to the Turkish border with Iran.

This is a mountain border, and the nearest Iranian village is a 12 hour walk. It was a very cold winter, and there was lots of snow everywhere. The soldiers spoke to each other, and one of them came to talk to the two men. He told them, "If we leave you here, you will certainly die. Even if you could make the 12 hour walk through all this snow, the hungry wolves in these mountains would kill you. But I am going to allow you to go back to the closest Turkish village. I know that if anyone finds out that I let you go, they could put me in prison for several years, or kill me according to the military law. But I'm a Christian, and I could not answer to Jesus Christ if I allowed you to die here." He saw that the men had no money, so gave them 50 million Turkish lira (about \$30, or two day's salary for a worker). ! ; He told them, "If you went, you would die. But you will live after today only because of Jesus Christ. Don't forget that you have to live for Jesus Christ after today."

With great difficulty, the man and his friend went back to Istanbul. At first he thought that the soldier was very foolish, but then started to recognize that the soldier really did save their lives. He started to wonder what it meant to live for Jesus. He started to tell all the Afghans he met what good people Christians are. He told them he was alive because a Christian saved him. A few days ago he was telling someone else his story, and that person told him about an Afghan Christian. He came to the Sunday meeting and met my friend. He asked a few questions, then accepted Christ into his heart without any hesitation.

His name is "H". He's the head of his family, and has a mother, a sister, and a younger brother. His father was killed in the late 1980's, and his older brothers were killed during the Taliban's regime.

Please pray for this new believer, who is also the first new believer to come out of the new Afghan fellowship in Turkey.

"N"

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