

February 5, 2011

3 Athens Snapshots...

#### SNAPSHOT #1

"Let's go to my place. Tasha can't stop us from studying the Bible there!" --Afghan refugee woman about missionary Tasha Hayes

For some years now, there has been a very slow but very steady growing interest in the Gospel among the refugee women. The women on our team have been very lovingly, patiently, and faithfully investing in these precious seekers in so many different ways: listening to their problems, crying with them, taking them on outings, loving their children, visiting them in their "homes", inviting them into their homes, going to the hospitals and police stations, praying with them, leading Bible studies, answering phone calls, and developing deep relationships of loving friendships.

A few refugees along the way have indicated faith in Jesus, some publicly and some privately. Some have moved on and some are still here.

Currently there is a good group of women who are very committed to regular Bible study and indicating serious interest in turning to Jesus. At the Bible study in our ministry center last week with teammates Lisa Dirrim and Tasha Hayes, Tasha was not feeling well to begin with, and after a LONG time of focus on Matthew 22 and Galatians 2:20, there erupted a very emotional outburst of statements and questions indicating a deep passion for God's truth in His word. Several started heatedly saying how wrong it was that they were forbidden to read the Bible in Afghanistan.

However, Tasha was feeling worse and worse (physically), so after some hours finally said, "Ladies, we really need to stop for today." To which one of the ladies responded, "Let's go to my place. TASHA CAN'T STOP US FROM STUDYING THE BIBLE THERE!" :)

Thanks for praying that these women who are "on the edge" would overcome their (legitimate) fears, and take that step forward in following Jesus.

#### SNAPSHOT #2

Mr. Ali and I continue to meet for Bible study each week. Please keep praying for him: his health, his financial situation, his search for Truth. Last week, his son was arrested in Sudan for being part of student-led protests against the government. You can see a video report (with his son Mahir Elfil in the story)...Click here:

<http://english.aljazeera.net/video/africa/2011/02/2011228102183881.html>

Please remember to also pray for Sudan, and the countries in the Middle East as well that seem to be "on the verge" of something new.

### SNAPSHOT #3

"H" is a 24-year-old Afghan who was born to refugee parents in Iran, where "H" was born and raised. He has been in Greece for 5 months, mostly sleeping outside during this time. He is a Muslim but open to learning about Jesus, with many many questions. He is reading the Bible and some other books about Christianity. He is currently living with us (temporarily) and we are trying to show him Jesus "up close".

Thanks for your love and support. We need you and we appreciate you.

Grateful,

Scott and Vicki

--

Scott & Vicki McCracken

Tel: (30) 210-65-28-191

[scott.mccracken@iteams.org](mailto:scott.mccracken@iteams.org)

<http://vimeo.com/1207537> (ministry video)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nj8YotW2R3U>

<http://elliebomccracken.blogspot.com>

<http://refminathens.blogspot.com> (refugee stories)

JOIN THE BLASTOFF NETWORK:

<http://my.blastoffnetwork.com/welcome/>