

Dear Praying Friends,

We need your prayers! The numbers of refugees coming to our ministry center in Athens are increasing TOO MUCH, and they are becoming increasingly aggressive and demanding. Yesterday, it was necessary to close early and one of the neighbors called the police due to the chaotic behavior of the hundreds of refugees trying to storm the gates for a bit of food to eat. Please pray that we will know how to best respond to the increasing needs and challenges.

In spite of the difficulties, God is still moving in hearts!

Here are a few "God-sightings" from some of our team members in Athens:

The first one is about an Afghani family. The father recently became a Christian but his wife was not a believer even though she attended Persian Fellowship with her husband and two little ones. Last night we learned that she had told her husband this week that she believed, and she prayed with him to accept Jesus! She is coming to Fellowship this week to make a public confession of faith.

The second story is a *wonderful example of how God can take something that seems negative and turn it into something for his glory*. Last Friday Kent and our Kurdish Christian friend "P" went with two refugee men "H" (a Kurdish man from Kent's English class) and "KH" (a Persian believer) to visit the camps where many refugees are incarcerated. They wanted to take Bibles and some needed items to the men there and to share with them.

Shortly after they arrived, the police came and took all four of them to the police station. "P" has legal papers and of course Kent has a resident permit so they were let go. **The other two men were put in jail--to us a problem but to God an opportunity. Since they had nothing else to do "KH" has spent the time witnessing to "H" and teaching him about the Bible.** Interestingly enough when they were arrested they had one Bible left, and it was in Kurdish!! "P" spoke to them on the phone yesterday and said, **"I think we will be baptizing "H" when they get out!!**

Kent has been meeting with the three Kurdish guys for English class again. "H" (the one who was in jail) and George were there on Tues. night. After class George stopped at the literature table and picked up a Kurdish Bible. He showed it to Kent and said, "Is it okay if I take this and read it?" Kent said, "Of course." George told him that "H" has one and has been reading it at home all the time since he got out of jail. "H" turned to Kent and said, trying to use proper English, "Jesus is my God - Yes?" Kent said, "YES!"

Nader was sharing that the Persian Fellowship service has been packed out the last few weeks. A man came to him and said "I have a poem I would like you to publish in your Persian Fellowship Magazine." Nader explained to him that it was a Christian Magazine and they would only put Christian material in it. The man convinced Nader to read his poem and Nader said it was a beautiful description of the the plan of salvation through Jesus. Nader said to the man "Who told you this?" The man said, "No one. **My uncle who writes poetry told me to read many books if I want to be able to write poetry, and one of those books was the Bible.** It was a very old translation and I couldn't understand most of it but I loved the Psalms and used to read them a lot. But when I came here my roommates did not like me having a Bible and they tore it in half. My heart was breaking because they tore the Psalms." He then said that he had found another Bible but it was the New Testament in a modern translation so he had been reading it and could understand it. Nader asked him, "So who do you think Jesus is?" Nader expected him to say "a prophet" since that is the Muslim belief. The man said "Jesus is God who came in the flesh and died for my sins". Nader could hardly believe his ears. He asked again, "Who taught you this?" and the man said "No one, I read it." Nader said to him, "It is good that you know this but you must ask Jesus to come into your heart and you must accept what He did for you on the cross." The man said, "I did not know about this, can you show me how to do

this?" Isn't God amazing! **Here is a man who's Muslim Uncle tells him to read the Bible as literature and through that he comes to a saving faith in Jesus!!!**

An Afghani man trusted in Christ at last week's "Shower Ministry". He was led to the Lord by one of the new believers staying in The Nest. His wife had picked up a New Testament from us earlier and after reading it with her husband, well, the Holy Spirit took over. **God is using refugees to reach refugees!**

A Sudanese man that Themis has been sharing with for months started meeting with him on Tuesday nights to study the Bible together.

Thanks for standing with us as we continue to reach the nations along the Refugee Highway!

GRATEFUL for you,

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