

Good news and Bad News from Athens

December 19, 2012

Dear Praying Friends,

First the bad news:

1. Dr. Joseph's attempts to get his family out of Pakistan for a "family reunion" in a third country are so far proving unfruitful.
2. Dr. Joseph has learned that the ambassador of Greece in Pakistan who has been blocking his family's reunification visas will be renewing another 2-year term there.
3. On the advice of a lawyer, Dr. Joseph started to pursue the application process for Greek citizenship. First, government workers at the translation office refused to translate his documents (because he is from Pakistan). Now there are rumors that a new law will be passed putting all immigrants who have no Greek blood in their heritage out of the process. (this is only a rumor at this point, but he is very discouraged, none-the-less, as next month makes 4 years since he has seen his family).

Some of you (and some of us here) suspect that this whole dilemma he and his family are facing is more of a spiritual warfare issue than simply a political or ethnic issue. WE ARE DESIGNATING JANUARY 2ND-9TH AS A WEEK OF PRAYER AND FASTING FOR DR. JOSEPH AND HIS FAMILY. Would you prayerfully consider joining us? Some may fast only some meals that week. Others may choose to fast all meals. Still others may fast only particular foods during that time. Whatever you are willing to do in combination with intensely focused prayer and intercession will be GREATLY APPRECIATED. One of those days (we don't yet know which one) will be day in which some of us here in Athens gather with Dr. J for a corporate time of intensely focused worship/prayer/spiritual warfare. When I know what day that is, I will let you know.

Now the good news:

We actually have much good news, but for now I will only share one testimony. "O" is one of the young Persian believers living in "The Incubator" (if you missed that update, you can find it at: <http://imccracken.net/prayer-letters-knee-mails/> click "The Incubator is Born" Oct. 20, 2012). "O" has suffered with serious heart problems for many years that have landed him the hospital several times and required medication at other times. In November we held our Leadership Seminar at The Shalom House of Prayer, and had the privilege of meeting some of the dear members of that church. "O" went back to one of their prayer meetings a couple of weeks later and they prayed for him. While they were praying he felt the power of God and "felt something go out". Believing he was healed, he went and made an appointment for tests at the hospital. A couple weeks ago he spent 7 hours one day doing stress tests and other heart exams at the hospital. He said the doctors kept saying, "There is nothing wrong with your heart. Why are you here?" Praise God for using the prayers of our brothers and sisters at The Shalom House of Prayer to bring healing to "O"!

That's if for now. We will send more news in the next week or so. THANK YOU FOR STANDING WITH US IN PRAYER! (2 Corinthians 1:11).

Grateful for you,

Scott and Vicki