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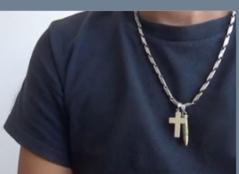
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SUPPORTING PERSECUTED CHRISTIAN REFUGEES



## Afghan Girls Released Unharmed

Please forgive the lateness of this newsletter. The past month has been crazily busy both here in Greece, and with the flocks and scattered sheep in Yemen, Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan. Working with people from Middle Eastern countries is a very dynamic work with changes and unexpected events being thrown at us almost daily. We never know what a day will bring!

Last time we asked you to pray for two young sisters in Afghanistan, who had arrest warrants issued because of their faith.

They were eventually captured and detained by the Taliban but thanks to the mercy of God and your fervent prayers, the Taliban released them with just a caution (and a "chance to change their ways") This was a miracle. Ordinarily they could have been tortured, raped and beaten to extract names of other



secret believers. Of course, the girls cannot renounce their saviour and will not go back to Islam, so they have fled to Iran where they are safe for now,

Everyone there was amazed and asks us to thank you all for praying!

## New Life at ICC

Since our last newsletter, the ICC family has had two newborn arrivals. One baby girl, in Athens, and one baby boy in Pakistan. Everyone is thrilled to welcome these two precious little ones to the community. They may be refugees,



but they are loved and have a place to belong.

We had a dedication in the House of Faith for little "H", whose parents and little brother have been with ICC for just over a year now. It was a time of joy and celebration as we all gathered together as a big family, both in person, and with those joining by Zoom. Together we gave support to the family and prayed for the new baby, giving thanks to God for her safe arrival and dedicating her to Him.

As one of the ICC team sang worship songs over her, this precious little one closed her eyes and raised her hands. Even babies worship our King!

A couple of weeks later this healthy baby boy arrived, this time in Pakistan to Afghan parents who are regular members of our flock there.

We will be holding an online dedication for "A" by zoom.

Please pray for these little ones and their families.



Ignore the pink blanket - it's a boy! :)

# Passover / Easter Retreat at Goshen

We had a lot of fun with the families who came for a week's retreat at Goshen. There were bible studies, prayer times, fellowship, fun activities and some light agricultural work. Those who came were very excited and loved their stay in the mountains. It's a different world from the one they experience in the refugee camps.





Activities included a ride-on mower driving competition, garden games, strimming, helping to move a compost heap and build frames for raspberries!

As soon as they arrived they expressed how relieved they felt, and immediately the peace of God came over them.

As we have seen many times now, the Holy Spirit begins a work of healing in them as they spend time in His presence, away from the stress and busyness of the city and refugee camp. It doesn't take long for them to start sharing some of the trauma they have experienced. And as they share, they

of the weight they have been carrying.

Praise God for His love and kindness. He gently brings them to a place of peace where He can begin to bring healing.

## Counting the Cost in Yemen

Sadly, one of the brothers in Yemen who first reached out to us has been killed. He knew he was at great risk and for some time was telling us that he was expecting to be martyred for his faith. He had counted the cost of following Jesus and was willing and ready to pay that price.

He longed to learn English, but most of all he wanted to see his brothers and sisters in Yemen strengthened, discipled and not standing alone.



When he realized that the Yemeni police had been informed about his faith, he told us it was just a matter of time. He asked us to promise to help his brothers and sisters to grow stronger in their faith, and to stand with them as long as they needed.

These words which we shared with you last time, were his:

"We have become the sacrifice offered at the altar. I'm not afraid of death, but I'm afraid of what will happen to God's people"

Please pray for this fragile flock. They have already lost too many to persecution, and they are heartbroken.

Since his passing, we have been in regular (almost daily) contact with the group. They have particularly asked us for teaching and guidance. They go out to minister to and share with other scattered ones in various places in Yemen, who are not able to connect to the internet.

This flock is determined to keep pressing forward, despite the great challenges they face. It is a privilege and honour for us to play a part in helping them to navigate these difficult trials and grow in their faith and understanding. Please pray for us as we try to help them.

#### 16% of Match-funding challenge Target reached!

We want to say a big THANK YOU to those of you who have already responded to our match funding challenge.

So far, we have managed to raise £8,070 towards our £50,000 target

This is a fantastic start! It's over 16% of the way, and we are so grateful to each of your generous and encouraging response.

#### £41,930 to go!

All glory to God for His incredible provision, exactly when we needed it. We have finally been able to get the engine replaced on the charity car, which is a huge relief.

**Make a Donation** 

### THANK YOU

Please don't think for one moment that you are insignificant. Each one of you who so faithfully stands alongside us in this work is so important. We thank God for all of you. We couldn't carry this work alone, and as you continue to stand with us and the flocks, praying, encouraging, giving financially... you are making a difference! Thank you!

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