



THE HAYNES

MISSIONARIES TO IRAQI KURDISTAN

"Lord, teach me always to be speaking as dying to dying."

R. M. M'Cheyne

Dear Pastor,

March - April 2021

Gospel Opportunities

As Apryl and I prepared to make our visit we received a call. S——'s grandmother had died. The visit to their home would be canceled as they mourned and buried her.

Just a week before this happened S—— called and told us that his aging grandmother had Covid. We asked if we could go and visit her but he said it was not allowed. The next day I received a text that said, "Do you want to visit my grandmother?" In a few minutes we were headed down to the hospital. When we arrived the guards refused us entry. We expressed respect for their wishes and began asking them about the health of their own families. The ranking security officer was surprised that we spoke Kurdish and was pleased when we expressed thanks to God for the health of his family and his safety at work. He looked at us for a moment and then said, "Would you like to come inside?" Apryl and I just stood there out of surprise. We have no pull at this hospital and he had all the authority. I asked him, "You mean we can come inside and make a visit?" He smiled and lifted barrier.

As we walked to the room S——'s uncle met us. I was unsure how this visit would go as he is a hard man and very Islamic. He was never overtly unkind to us, but always cold and dismissive. As we walked toward him the uncle put out his hand and then embraced me. He began to thank us for coming. No one else had come to visit. We spoke for a few moments at the room and I asked if I could pray. The uncle said yes. We bowed our heads outside the room and in full view of the guards and staff and began to pray. We prayed that as the blood of Christ has power to save the soul he also has the power to heal the body. It was not until we raised our heads that we saw tears streaming down the uncle's face. His nephew was shocked. He had never seen his uncle cry. The uncle hugged me for a long moment whispering many thanks that we had come.

S——'s grandmother passed away, but there is still hope! Please pray that God will use this to soften the hearts of S—— and his uncle that the Gospel might be received by both men.

As always, we ask for your prayers that God would make us effective in the ministry of the Gospel.

Matt & Apryl Haynes

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SENDING CHURCH

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