



## THE HAYNES

MISSIONARIES TO IRAQI KURDISTAN



Sheikh Emad "We have access to God through Jesus Christ"

### Continuing in Confidence

Since our "Confident in the Gospel" conference, we have seen the truth of that title come alive in our people. The impact of the preaching did not end when the conference did—our church has been stirred to action, and the results have been thrilling.

One of the clearest evidences of God's work is the **boldness our members now show in sharing the Gospel**. The fear and hesitation that held them back have been replaced with love of souls and a love of the Gospel.

Members of our church have **led Yezidi individuals to Christ**, and some of our Assyrian believers have stepped out to **share Christ with their Muslim friends**, presenting Him boldly as the only true hope for this world.

This is what we prayed for. This is what we hoped for. Our people aren't just remembering the sermons from the conference—they're living them. The truth of Jesus Christ not only to be proclaimed but to be lived!

### New Development: Weekly Prayer Meeting

Another exciting step forward is the launch of a weekly prayer meeting for our baptized members. There is a new sense of unity in our church. Some of our members had never prayed aloud before and it is amazing to hear them communicate with the Lord. Even those members who are terrified to pray aloud attend the meeting and God is using this time to draw our people to himself.

### A Decade of Faith: *The Next Step Forward*

This year marks 10 years since Apryl and I arrived in North Iraq. As we reflect on everything God has done—especially through **the birth of Light of Life Baptist Church**, the **salvation and baptism of Kurdish and Yezidi souls**, and the strengthening of believers—we are more excited about the future than we have ever been.

We recently released a short video that captures our heart, our history, and the step of faith we are taking right now.

We are asking you—who have walked with us faithfully over these past 10 years—to take one more step of faith with us. Our goal is to raise \$70,000, and the first \$5,000 has already been pledged. This is a strategic move that will help us plant deeper roots in this community, free us from the cycle of rising rent, allow us to stay close to the church, and—just as importantly—send a clear message to our local community: "**We're here to stay.**"

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your faithful prayers, your sacrificial giving, and your unwavering belief in what God is doing here. **We truly can't wait to see what God will do in the next 10 years!**

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



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## *Deeper Roots*

This year marks ten years of life and ministry here in Kurdistan, Northern Iraq. I can hardly believe it as I write those words. Ten years of learning, growing, loving, and building block by block.

Over those ten years, we've lived in several different homes – starting in the village then moving to the city, some houses and some apartments. On average, every one to two years, we've had to move – not because we wanted to, but because the owners needed to sell quickly, often without much warning. Each move has come with disruption, expense, and emotional strain, especially as we've tried to keep life stable consistent for those we serve.

Our heart has always been to stay – to *really* stay. To root ourselves in this place and to be seen as rooted by those around us. We have been praying for three years about the possibility of buying a home here and we believe this is how God is leading us.

A home that we own would mean stability – not just for us, but for the ongoing life and ministry that flows out of this place. We want to continue to open our doors in hospitality, to disciple, to care for others – and having a home of our own would allow us to do that without interruption.

More than anything, we just want to thank you. Your partnership in prayer and support has held us steady through countless transitions. You have been part of our story here. And we truly can't wait to see what God does next.

*Apryl Haynes*