



THE HAYNES

MISSIONARIES TO IRAQI KURDISTAN



Bro. K and one of his converts

Ministry Continues: Iraq

A young man in our church, Bro. K, has been meeting with several young men among his own people (the Yezidi people) for evangelism and discipleship. I had the privilege to meet one of these young men who has accepted Christ as a result of these meetings!

What an experience to watch someone in whom investment has been made investing his life and energy into the salvation of others at great personal risk to himself. We met in the top floor of the local mall and spoke for about 2 hours on the subject of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The young man with whom we met made this statement, **"I became interested in Jesus because I see the way the Jesus people treat each other and the way they treat people who are not the Jesus people. You don't hate the ones who hate you."** God is good and is working through His Word and the lives of local believers.

Lebanon

We had the privilege of being with missionary Raymond Abou-Mikhael and his wonderful church in Beirut, Lebanon in May. It was incredible to see a...

...Missions Conference held in the Middle East and people excited to be involved in spreading the Gospel in their own country as well as around the world.

Apryl and I enjoyed getting to know Bro. Raymond more and getting to know his people. Bro. Raymond has been laboring in Lebanon for more than two decades and the Lord is blessing his dedication and faithfulness to the ministry. We hope to bring some of our young men to their meetings so that our people can begin to **see what can be done in the Middle East by those who are from the Middle East.** Pray that God will broaden their vision by exposure to this wonderful ministry.

We are not planning on leaving Iraq. We are citizens of the USA, but our hearts and our lives are planted here. **The Lord is not finished with Iraq**, and the Holy Spirit is very present and working in the hearts of the believers and convicting those who, as yet, do not know him.

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



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The Wife's Perspective

Prayer Points

We want to thank you for your support in prayer. It is very easy to say, “I’m praying for you” or “I will pray about that,” and then move on with our day. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we have all been guilty of it. I certainly have. However, over the years, there have been many moments when partnering with our supporting churches has reminded us of the sincerity behind many promised prayers. It is such a comfort and encouragement to know that there are always faithful people praying for us.

With that in mind, I’ll list below a few requests that are most needful in our lives and ministry right now.

For the people: Our church is blessed with several young people, particularly singles in their 20s. Being in your 20s and single in this culture brings a tremendous amount of pressure. We have several young people who have specifically expressed their desire to wait for a saved, serious believer despite parental and cultural pressure. Some have even turned down promising opportunities for relationships with this in mind. Please pray for God’s provision, if it is His will, for a godly mate for them, and for their growth and faithfulness while they wait.

For the children: We are blessed to have several children in our ministry as well. This week, I’ll ask you to pray for one in particular. Since she comes from a Muslim-background household, we will call her “Sarah.” “Sarah” has been *very* excited to join our Sunday school class and recently became old enough to be part of it. One of our little boys in the class recently accepted Christ (it is such a joy to see a child come to faith at an early age!), and we are praying for the same for “Sarah.” Please pray that her exposure to the gospel will bear fruit in her life and that she will receive Christ at this tender age.

For the lost: We have seen God miraculously save people from various religious and cultural backgrounds over the last few years. However, the majority population of our region—Kurdish Muslims—remains the most resistant to the gospel. The lies of Islam and the cultural stronghold it creates have been effective tools of Satan to keep Iraqi Kurdish hearts, on the whole, unreceptive to the gospel. We will continue laboring to plant just one more seed and to keep watering those we have already planted. There are doubters and quiet seekers among them. Please pray that God would pierce the hearts of those who have doubts about the religion into which they were born. He sees them where they are.

For us: Pray for our strength as we continue. Pray for our health, as we have had new health issues arise over the last couple of years. Pray for us mentally, spiritually, and physically, that we would be able to continue the work with fresh energy and strength.

For the future: More than any single prayer request, we have been continually asking the Lord to provide the future pastor of our church. Whether he is already a member or someone who will come to Christ and be added to the church, we ask the Lord to bring the man who can be trained by my husband and eventually take leadership of the church. He is key to our vision for a multigenerational church in Iraqi Kurdistan.

As you labor where you are with your own set of needs and your own list of prayer requests, may the Lord genuinely bless you and your work.

Your sister in Iraq,

Apryl Haynes