



THE HAYNES

MISSIONARIES TO IRAQI KURDISTAN



Ministry Update

What a wild few months it has been in North Iraq! New bombs and new salvations and new members and new discipleship classes and new plans and new possibilities. The preceding sentence is grammatically atrocious but it, hopefully, conveys our excitement about all that is going on in North Iraq.

New Bombs

Turkey has been bombing closer and closer and it seems likely that they intend a permanent presence in N. Iraq. While there have been no rockets in our town there are strikes being executed in our city's area of governance. There has been tragic loss of civilian life. Please pray that this Muslim-on-Muslim violence will open the eyes of the Iraqi Kurdish people to the hypocrisy and lie of Islam.

New Salvations

There is an incredible story of how a Kurdish family came to attend our church that begins in Syria, proceeds to Europe and then ends in salvation and baptism in N. Iraq. Look for our video in September for the specifics on how faithful evangelism in the West led to salvation in the Middle East.

After preaching a sermon on the Resurrection (a favorite topic among our people), three members of this Kurdish family approached me and said, "We want to do that. We want to believe in Jesus and we want to be part of that thing you were talking about." If it is possible to feel as if your heart stopped and sped up all at the same time then that is exactly how I felt. I asked them to repeat themselves just to make sure I had

New Salvations cont...

heard them correctly. Here were three Kurdish people from Syria and Iran seeking salvation. We sat down and walked through several Scriptures before bowing our heads as they verbally professed their faith in Jesus Christ. The space in this letter would fail me in telling you of their suffering, faithfulness and dedication that have evidenced the sincerity of their conversion.

Let me tell you that all of the difficulty and struggle of ministry in the Middle East was gone that night! Apryl and I cried all the way home and then cried some more when we got home. We sat up for hours praising the Lord. We talked about the burden of missions in the Middle East and it seemed as though that burden had become as nothing. These souls are worth the struggle of a lifetime of ministry in N. Iraq.

It is a privilege to serve the Lord and we are so grateful to each of you who make it possible for us to minister to the people that we love.

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



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