



Dear Praying Friends,

Most of us claim to believe in the Power of Prayer and can quote Scripture proving the point! In all honesty, if we were who and what we claim to be, we would be seeing much more happening for the Kingdom of God, in this sin-sick broken world we live in!

1. How readily we find alternatives to the Prayer Meeting, often spoken of as the 'Powerhouse of the Church' and yet the least attended?
2. How much time do we personally spend in daily prayer?

We are so thankful that many of you pray regularly for the Lord's Work in Greece and Macedonia, especially, relating to the continuing migrant transition to Europe, as well as for our entire family. In the weeks following our last prayer letter, we had the joy of seeing answers to prayer, which were simply incredible and we want to share some of the highlights of this period with you.

Each time we went to the camp at **Eidomeni [Greek/Macedonian border]**, in conjunction with Mizpah & World Help, we were met with varying scenarios. We brought along aid supplies, carried Scriptures, had a burden for the lost souls and had to learn to be Ready for Anything [RFA]. A number of local believers from different cities in Greece have been mentored and taught how to lead a Muslim to Christ, with the aim of multiplying effectiveness in this particular situation. It has been a real joy watching them witness to people, not just giving physical aid, but spiritual too! Thousands of those shared with, have already reached their destinations in Europe, and we know that the seed sown will continue to bear fruit in their lives. *'One sows, another reaps'* John 4:37

One man we met **was a reporter from Syria**. He had written articles against President Assad's father, [a despot of 1st degree], and ended up in prison for 16 years. He showed us his hands, which had been beaten with rods 1,000's of times to teach him not to write against the regime. He was thrilled to get a personal copy of the New Testament, as in prison he had already read the Bible several times. When David showed him the way of Salvation, he exclaimed, 'That is what I want - I need to become a Christian, but....I am not going to do it now!' He was serious, but David asked him why he'd put off such an important decision. 'I want to wait till I get to Sweden, I will find an evangelical pastor, then my wife and I will become Christians together and it will be an encouragement to the local church as well.' He felt he had survived so many dangers that God would keep them safe for the final part. David prayed with him before he left and gave him a contact number in Sweden. As his group were ready to cross the border, L, left and ran back to give David a final hug before joining the others!

Sometimes the evenings were pleasant but getting chillier, other times they were very wet, cold and miserable, but always, the door of opportunity was open for us and we gave out many raincoats/blankets, as being dry and warm does help initiate conversations!

Many of the other volunteers and workers, [Muslims included] grew to really care for us and greeted us with excitement and hugs. It is true that people react completely different if they know you care!

We got into conversation with a young lady, "**F**" [names abbreviated for safety], from Damascus, and her husband "**A**", who used to work in Turkey. We shared the Gospel and offered them New Testaments. F said, *'I believe Jesus died for our sins.'* A group of 9 had stopped en route in Turkey with some friends. What a surprise when they found out that their friends had become Christians and spent the entire 3 days witnessing, hoping to see the group converted! Now they were confronted with the same challenge again! F said, *'I do believe in Jesus, but I want to believe in the prophet too.'* David told her that was impossible and she had to make the choice! Our task is to tell them the whole of the Gospel, no matter what it could cost them and not to water down the truth. We prayed together and they were very grateful!

A young female lawyer "**S**", explained that if she [with husband and son] went back to Iran, they would be executed because for someone of her status, leaving the country, showed lack of confidence in the current regime. She was delighted to get a lovely leather-backed Farsi Bible, along with 2 other ladies who came up and requested one. We shared the Gospel and the price it could cost. They asked David to pray with them and Sanaz said, *'Maybe this [referring to the Bible] will change me too!'*



Refugees Reading  
the Bible



"F", "A" & Family

In Germany, IS supporters marched through the streets with banners - no longer refugees seeking a safe country of residence - this was their agenda all along!!! A refugee camp is burnt to the ground in Slovenia, because the refugees weren't being processed fast enough, while later in France, a murderous onslaught leaves 129 dead and 320 injured. The migrants/refugees fall into roughly 4 categories -

- People who really are fleeing from persecution, not only Christians, but Muslims who don't fit with IS.
- People from war-torn lands
- People from many lands who want a new life away from poverty
- People who are being encouraged in one way or another to leave their homelands, settle in Europe and help achieve an Islamic State.

We were aware of what was coming, in fact we have tried to warn authorities about some of people we met, but we have been called to *'love our enemies,'* Matthew 5:44 and love will always defeat hate, when shown through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ! **The more people we reach with His love now, the less they are likely to become radicalized in their adopted nations.**

These factors and increasing numbers of migrants in mid-Europe caused further changes, with only the peoples from **Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria allowed through** the border and further into Europe. There isn't much Greece can do with the people when they have already landed on our shores. We can't exactly put them back in the rubber dinghies and send them to Turkey! So many who were from Somalia, Morocco, Bangladesh and Iran were among those refused admission and therefore had to remain in the Greek camp until somewhere was found for them to be.

The camp became a seething mass of discontent, the weather was getting colder, food was scarce and the misery was escalating. Some of the refugees were still wet 2 days after coming over the sea, and many of them had all their extra belongings taken off them before boarding the boats to make more room. Others lost their backpacks in the rough seas, and even those who managed to have a change of clothing with them, found that the water had soaked through all their belongings. Fights and violence became a normal part of life for these **1,000's of people, being held against their will** in the middle of nowhere, with their dreams of a wonderful future evaporating before their eyes. Now there were open hostilities between these groups, which we witnessed several times and were once caught up in the middle of what became a full-scale riot. This is where your prayers came in!!!

On one of these evenings, a young man started shouting at us, 'Why is this happening?' We began talking about Jesus and offered him a Bible. He grabbed it and said, 'I've been searching for an Injil for 3 years. Can you show me how to become a Christian?' Three other men joined him, all wanting New Testaments and all asking the same question! David explained the Gospel and what it would require of them to be a Christian, especially in this volatile situation. They were determined, shared their stories of how God had preserved them through awful things, and now they wanted to know Jesus Christ as their Savior. **All 4 bowed their heads, repented and came to Jesus.** With tears running down their faces, they realized that almighty God had suddenly become their Heavenly Father, even in these dreadful conditions! It was an awesome moment! Remember when God visited a manger!

**Giannis** was with us on that occasion and was approached by two other men. 20 minutes later, he appeared beaming as he told how he had just led 2 souls to the Lord. His life has been transformed and later in January he is going to Lesbos with his wife **Melpo**, to assess the situation at the point of entry into Greece. Days like this are when relief work becomes something else, like the laws of aerodynamics taking over from gravity, as another power has been brought into the equation!!!!

During that night everything boiled over - one young man was electrocuted on the top of a train, - and the crowd used his body as a type of unifying mascot, to force their way through the border. Being driven back, they went on the rampage and tents were destroyed, containers were forced open, relief supplies ripped apart and strewn over the muddy fields by enraged migrants. Riot Police, managed to calm the situation, some refugees were reloaded into buses and sent back to Athens, but the majority stayed. All **relief organizations were temporarily stopped** as punishment, but of course this meant there was no food or facilities for a few days, even for women and children.

We were also told to stay away, but felt we had an obligation to 'our spiritual children' and to see first hand what was going on. We prayed that God would allow us to make contact with them and He did. After being allowed through the police cordon - their reluctance was broken down when **Vasilis a UN worker** recognized David, came over and hugged him. [Revelation 3:8]

In the middle of 1,000's of angry men, suddenly **David met "F"**, one of the 4 young men who had trusted Jesus. He was radiant! While the other 5 had returned to Athens to the refugee camp, he had stayed, hoping there might be a change in the rules at the border. He assured us he was reading his Bible and praying all the time and totally convinced God was with him every step of the way.



New Believers



Giannis with Refugees



"F"

This saga continues, but we have **2 teams working** at the border now, both as carers for the physical needs, as well as soul winners for the spiritual needs of the people there. We conducted a seminar for people wanting to reach Muslims, who have become the nucleus of the work, which they continue in our absence. In mid- February, we will do a quick trip back to Greece and visit with our teams to the border, as a means of encouragement, to make sure they have money to keep afloat and to assess the changing situation on the borders.

**Calendar Outreach** was a great blessing as usual and God opened some amazing doors.

We were delighted to talk again with **Elene & Effie** in a tile & plumbing business and **Janni & Michaela** who we couldn't find for months. They own a restaurant and are very interested. **Kostas**, a new friend, a member of the **Communist Party**, after listening to the gospel agreed, not only to read the booklet David gave him, but also to put a calendar on the wall that others could read it. An atheist, Julie, from England, who insisted David share his testimony and the Gospel with her and her son, before promising to read the N.T and gospel booklets. She is married to a Greek and wants to meet up on our return. Pray that these 300 families, firms and friends will continue to be influenced as they read it every day!!!!

We are very thankful to **Phil & Helen** from the Lattimore Assembly, who helped recently when a young believer from Skopje accepted a job in GB, only to find on arriving that it was a scam. He managed to contact Olive Wilson, who contacted us and this terrified young man was rescued, cared for and returned home by Phil & his friends. Actually, we are using **Olive's car** now for our Irish deputation, which is a huge blessing for us and we appreciate you all, as friends, having our backs in so many areas.

On the journey home, we picked up **Allyn** in Switzerland and were able to enjoy his company all the way through Europe, together with the MacDonald clan in Skye at Christmas and the Lyttles in N. Ireland at the New Year. It was lovely to have him!

We joined David [Martin & Sharon's son] & Katie Bell for their wedding in England and wish them every blessing for their future together!

With grateful thanks for your love & support and we do still have meetings spots in the first few months of 2016 [see attachment]. If you would like to talk with us, hear us, have us visit or see us, then please call either **Charles McCluskey** [details below] or **David on 07709 594498**.

These have been blessed and precious months for us as we watched God perform miracles in the lives of so many people and He is not finished yet! Psalm 126:6 - *'He who goes forth weeping, bearing precious seed, shall come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves* - comes to mind and we ask that you please continue to pray for those who trusted the Lord in 2015 and the opportunities we will have in 2016.

Yours for the Extension of His Kingdom,

David & Wilma

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All gifts are tax-deductible.*