

Thank you – شكرًا

We are very grateful to all of you who support our ministry. Thank you for your prayers and donations. Recently we have been able to complete the production of a number of programs which are all about to be broadcast or already on TV: *the Quest* (interactive program for teenagers), *Kingdom Person* (how to live as a Christian in today's world), *Freedom Café* (theology explained in common language) and *Hope for Tomorrow* (about domestic violence).

“Could you please pray for me and my wife? I have had four dreams about Jesus and decided to join my wife in going to church. Now my family has discovered this and attacked me. We had to move out of the city. I am reading the Bible now and I'm waiting on God to speak to us.”

(Ali from Egypt)



Now on TV

Miracle channel: www.miraclechannel.com

- Hope for tomorrow: series about domestic violence
- Discipleship programme

Sat-7 : www.sat7.org

- Bible study programmes about Paul's epistles
- Hope for tomorrow: series about domestic violence
- Kingdom person: how to live according to biblical principles?
- Discipleship programme

Kingdomsat – www.almalakootsat.com

- Series of biblestudy programmes

ABN – www.abnsat.com

- Freedom Cafe – theology explained in everyday language



CONTACT & FINANCE INFO

Arab Vision Trust Fund is registered as a charity in Cyprus
email: contact@arabvision.org
website: www.arabvision.org

In the USA, checks can be sent directly to: our American office. Arab Vision Inc. is a 501(c)3 organization.

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You may also donate by paying through our website www.arabvision.org. This is a secure payment facility.

Bank of America
Branch: 11868 Preston Rd, Dallas TX 75230
Account name: Arab Vision Inc
Account no: 004782094990
Routing no: 111000025
Federal EID no:
48-1270313

In Canada, Australia and New Zealand, cheques can be sent to Interserve with a cover letter indicating that the money is meant for Arab Vision.

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Would you like to receive regular prayer requests about the Arab world and the work of Arab Vision, please subscribe to our email prayer letter through our website
www.arabvision.org
or write to us at
contact@arabvision.org

MEDIA FOR CHANGE



Issue 34, December 2015

Peace and joy, or fear?

The Lord is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear?

“The Lord is the stronghold of my life of whom shall I be afraid?” (Psalm 27:1)

Our production team in the Middle East has decided that they really want to produce a series of programs for Christmas, although we don't know yet whether we will have enough funds for it in time.

Why are they so eager? Hasn't peace on earth and in the Middle East ever been further away than today?

Well, they said, we want to give room for and acknowledge feelings of fear and anxiety, and we will give abundant room for the message of Christmas, the message of Jesus Christ - a message of hope and peace - a peace that transcends all understanding.

Are you afraid and anxious, now that terror is a reality in Europe as well? Or do we testify with David: I remain confident of this: *“I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living”* (Ps. 27:13).

Please pray abundantly for this project, our production team, the viewers of our programs throughout the Arab World, in Europe and the USA, and for our follow-up workers.

And please give generously to enable us to share the message of hope and peace, this Christmas.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns.

Umm al Farieq

Umm al Farieq
International director Arab Vision

In the shadow of God's wings...

Is there a place of refuge? Is there a safe place where I can hide till the storm is over? David was often on the run from Saul and repeatedly he said to God: *“In you I take refuge. I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed.”* (Ps. 57.1 NIV)

The time when Jesus was born was full of uncertainties about the future; there was oppression, people were on the move; there was great fear. Rome was keeping tight control over its subjects; King Herod was ruthlessly defending his rule; forces of opposition were desperately fighting for more freedom.

It was both a time of upheaval and a time of God's extraordinary revelations, causing people to be troubled and afraid. Zechariah the priest, Mary, Joseph and the shepherds – all of them were afraid. Yet, in their anxiety and fears they found a hiding place under God's wings – in His faithfulness and the fulfilment of His promises: the coming of the Messiah.

No, all was not well in the world, neither was there a still and quiet Bethlehem. The faithful were not very joyful or triumphant – circumstances were upsetting and there was much anxiety in people's hearts...as there is today. Many Arab Christians may feel there is not much to celebrate this year; peace and joy seem very far away.

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“I am Adel. I used to be a Muslim but when I read the Bible I got to know the Lord Jesus Christ. Now my family and my friends are persecuting me because of my new faith. Please pray for me. I need all the encouragement I can get.”

(Adel from Iraq)



Immanuel

God with us

عمانويل

الله معنا

The team of Arab Vision
wishes you God's blessing

ARAB
VISION

Arab Christians proclaiming the Gospel on TV in the Arab world

“In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.” (John 1.4)

Augustine and Faouzi: testimonies from North Africa’s past and present



Augustine was born in North Africa (presently Algeria) in the year 354 and was raised by his Christian mother Monica. The prayers of his mother and the preaching of Ambrose in Milan had a deep impact on him. Although he was convinced that Christianity was right, he found it impossible to become a Christian because he thought he could never live a pure life.

One day he cried out to God: “How much longer, o Lord? Why does not this hour put an end to my sins?” At that moment he heard a child sing “Take up and read!” He picked up the Letters of St. Paul, and read the first passage he saw: “put away all impurity and live as followers of Christ”. From then on Augustine began a new life. He was baptized and eventually he became the bishop of Hippo. In his well-known Confessions he wrote: “Too late came I to love you, O Beauty both so ancient and so new! Too late came I to love you - and behold you were with me all the time . . .”

Faouzi was born in a village in Algeria and raised in a nominal Muslim family. At university he did not show any interest in religion, but he was fascinated with literature. One day a fellow student gave him a Bible and Faouzi started to read it on a cold winter day when he had nothing else to do.

When he read a passage about being set free through the wounds of Jesus, he was suddenly deeply touched and started to cry. He knew that he was not reading an ordinary book but he understood that the book had come from God.

His life was changed: “In the Bible I saw how Jesus laid down his glory because he loved people and wanted to save them. I started to look for other Christians and for a church I could go to. The Holy Spirit was revealing to me who Jesus really was: the Saviour of the world, my Saviour.”

Arab Vision is working on a documentary series on early North African Christians who influenced the history of the church worldwide, and a series of testimonies from North African people who accepted Jesus as their Saviour and Lord in this century.

For both series we need your prayers and your financial support, especially for the production of the series of testimonies that were filmed recently; we have great stories but need funds for producing, editing and broadcasting them.



Musalaha: Reconciliation!

“...to guide our feet into the path of peace.” Luke 1.79 (Zechariah’s song)

For more than 20 years Musalaha (Reconciliation) in Jerusalem has been working with Palestinian and Israeli believers in Jesus. Over the years many people have been deeply touched by meeting people ‘from the other side’; God guided their feet “into the path of peace” as Zechariah sang in Luke 1.

“The Musalaha camp is important to me because I want to be the change I wish to see in my country and the world; Musalaha gives me an opportunity to be that change. As Christians we need to be involved in reconciliation because this is what Jesus taught us.” (Palestinian counsellor at a Musalaha summer camp)

“Even in the midst of these circumstances, the fighting, the war, we can’t let that set the tone. We can’t forget the Gospel. God’s love is for everyone, Jesus came for everybody, so there is hope!” (Israeli participant in Musalaha activities)

In partnership with Musalaha we are planning the production of a 45-minute documentary focusing on the teaching of biblical principles of reconciliation. It will be produced in Arabic and Hebrew, and subtitled in English. We would really like to do all the filming in 2016 but we need to have the major part of the budget covered before we can start. For more details, please see *Can you help?* on page 3.



In the shadow of God’s wings... – continued

*I will dwell in the shadow of your wings
I will know of the peace your love can bring
Night will fall but I will not be afraid
When I dwell in the shadow of your wings
In the shadow, in the shadow of your wings*

This Christmas we want to encourage the Arab Christians with a program around the theme of fear and peace. We don’t take the anxieties of people lightly, on the contrary; we want to create room for discussing these fears, showing that it is human nature to be afraid when facing unusual circumstances, as the history of Christmas so clearly shows.

Yet at the same time we want to point out there is a place of refuge and even inner peace, as Mary, Zechariah, Joseph and many others experienced as they trusted in God’s faithfulness and in the fulfilment of His promises.

With your help we will produce 13 episodes of 15 minutes each with Christmas songs and conversations around the theme ‘fear and peace’. Everything will be linked to the history of Christ’s birth.

Would you please pray that this program will be a great blessing and encouragement for the Arab church in this time? For more financial details, see *Can you help?* on this page.

“A while ago you sent me a Bible when I asked you for one after I had seen a programme on TV. I have been reading the book and I am really excited. I would love to attend a church. Could you please help me find one?”

(Mohammed from Egypt)

A bible story a day ...

“His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.” Luke 1. 50 (Mary’s song)

Many passages in the Bible encourage us to talk about God’s great deeds, His love, grace and wisdom to the next generations. Young children are open to learn, and it’s our calling to teach them how our Lord God walked and talked with people just like us, how He guided and comforted them, called them to trust Him in everything.

Many parents these days are so busy that they try to keep their children entertained with computer games, but children all over the world love listening to stories, especially while sitting on grandma’s or grandpa’s lap. That is why we want to present a meaningful program for children, ages 3-6, to keep them fascinated.

At the same time we want to involve the parents and encourage them to have quality time with their children, by memorising the Bible verse with them and talking about the story. We plan to produce a TV series of 365 episodes; each episode of about 5-7 minutes covers a Bible story, has a song and a Bible verse.



Can you help?

Editing equipment

First a word of thanks, to those who donated funds for buying new editing equipment and software. Most items will be bought in the coming weeks but we already organized a training session with editors to get familiar with the new Final Cut Pro (FCP) editing software

Reconciliation: Getting the right things right - 5x US\$350

We are planning to produce short video clips about biblical principles of reconciliation for use in Facebook campaigns, inviting people to reflect on truth, justice, forgiveness, prayer and new beginnings. For more info see page 2.

Christmas 2015/2016 - 13x US\$ 250

How can we possibly sing ‘Oh come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant’ at Christmas, while there is so much fear inside and outside the Middle East? We want to produce a series of 13 episodes with lots of music and sharing about ‘Fear and Peace’, giving room to the fearful situation of so many Arabs, both Christians and Muslims, and how Jesus Christ can and will turn fear into peace. That is the message of Christmas. Please pray that we will be able to produce and broadcast this series during Western and Eastern Christmas.

Testimonies from North Africa- US\$350 per program

In the fourth century Augustine testified ‘You have made us for yourself, oh Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you’. Today North Africans of Muslim background testify ‘Jesus changed my life and character. I invite anyone, Muslim or atheist, to come to Christ, as He will set you free.’ Please help us produce programs with these old and new testimonies from North Africa.