

Gift of Christmas

Cairo! Sitting in a restaurant eating fajitas, listening to Frank Sinatra. A country struggling with globalization. However, the day is punctuated by the Imam's insistent call to prayer, a country convinced of the global benefits of Islam.

Egypt captures this global struggle between competing world-views. This traveller from the west cannot escape this contemporary conflict. Throughout the Arab world the same conflict is apparent.

Standing on the soil of a land that offered hospitality to the people of Joseph, soon replaced by the tyranny of oppression and slavery. This was the land that birthed the journey from suffering to praise.

Egypt, once a haven for Jesus' family fleeing the murderous factions of Herod, now seeks to suppress the gospel and oppress followers of Messiah. Today there is a stirring in Egypt and the wider Arab World. Women and men, young and old are seeking the Messiah once again.

Arab Vision, through the power of Media - television, web steaming and the internet - is finding a ready audience for its message of hope.

This Christmas season you may want to add a gift of hope to your list. The gift of the gospel, broadcast into the home of Arab families throughout the Middle East, North Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. May the miracle of Bethlehem be repeated ~ your gift will enable that to happen.

Dr Michael Morris

Breakthrough for the Gospel among Kurds?

It is striking that in recent years significantly more Kurds in northern Iraq have decided to follow Jesus Christ than in previous centuries. Is this the time when the Light of Christ rises among them? Many Kurds will celebrate that God became man in Jesus Christ. Islam is no longer a satisfactory answer to their life's questions. The fact that during the past decades the Sunnis of Iraq have severely oppressed these Kurds has certainly played a role in their desire to become Christians.



So this is the right time for producing Kurdish Christian TV programs! There is a movement of the Spirit of God in Kurdistan, and Arab Vision likes to 'cooperate' with Him. The first programs have already been aired; Kurds have told us: "This is exactly what we need!" Therefore we are currently making more Kurdish programs, with testimonies, music, Bible teaching etc. And all this in the language and culture of the Kurds of Northern Iraq.

With a pastor in Kurdistan, we also want to produce simple, straightforward teaching programs, about the meaning of Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, Pentecost, the coming of Christ, and how we as believers are to follow Him.

Your prayer is needed for the production of these programs. We must be very careful, because of the sensitivities in Iraq and among the Kurds. We still have to raise funds for the Christian teaching programs. Can you pray with us? And can you consider how you might also participate financially?

Beautiful teen programs



Many Arab teens are enthusiastic about our programs for teenagers. In lively programs, in which teenagers play the leading role, we treat matters that are relevant for them, and how the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ relates to that.

You think that Arab teenagers are different from those you are used to? Not at all! Recurring themes, because they are so important for Arab teens, are: sex, sex, and sex. Oh, yes, and about parents and their problems, that nobody understands them, and what they should do with the rest of their lives...

Because the subject of sex is a huge taboo in the Arab world and in the churches as well, we often produce programs about that subject. In recent years, our outspoken programs have ensured that this issue is discussed more in the churches and in society. This has greatly helped many young people. The extent of the taboo the theme of sex is evidenced by the fact that most girls enter marriage without any understanding of what to expect. Fear dominates, hence the importance of sound biblical teaching in this field.

Please pray for me. I am [...] from Saudi Arabia, and I have become a Christian; I often watch your programs and I hope you will broadcast more!

Amir: “Arab women really need the gospel”

Amir has worked for nine years for Arab Vision. He is the producer of many of our programs. One of the series he produces focuses on Arab women. The series is currently in its third year and is popular on Arab Christian television. Women from around the Arab world tell their life stories,



in which the saving and renewing power of the Lord Jesus Christ is visible. “Arab women really need these programs”, according to Amir. “Their condition is often so hopeless.”

Amir: “I was deeply touched when we filmed stories of Iraqi women. They described their difficulties in the midst of the war in Iraq. I have often cried when I shot and watched these episodes.”

Amir says with a wink: “That’s not because I was so emotional about the superb quality of my work. But these women help me to see my own problems in perspective. Problems do not always disappear, but these women witness to the presence of our Lord with them, even in the midst of their problems. This offers hope to the people who watch these programs. Such programs give courage to Arab women and they build the church of Jesus Christ. ”

By the end of the year, the third series of 26 programs will be ready. Please, pray with us that these programs will make many women trust in Jesus Christ. Pray also for Amir, that God blesses him for his motivation; he considers the work of Arab Vision as his life mission.

From the viewers

“Please pray for me. I’m an Egyptian Muslim. I came to know Jesus three years ago and I hope you can send me a Holy Book and pray for us.”

Man living in Saudi Arabia

My dear, I’m suffering from a continuous depression and worry because of not being engaged, to the extent of insomnia... Believe me that loneliness and need are very dreadful to women like cancer to the body.

“I thank God that he gave me a child after the doctors said that my pregnancy is impossible and after we were married three months. He delivered in the same month of our marriage.”

Woman from Egypt



“Please pray for me as I’m separated from my wife from four years ago and God has dealt with me and I have a relationship with him. However, I have doubt that my marriage could be back to normal because I tried all the ways to solve the problem but it didn’t work. So pray for me.”

Man from Egypt

“I’m Yara, I thank God a lot because I asked you to pray for work for me and God answered the prayers.”

Woman from Bahrain



Arab TV series on the Christian education of children

Arab Vision is making a TV series of 52 episodes in which viewers receive advice about raising children; these programs are based on biblical principles. Themes to be discussed are the gift of unconditional love, trusting



your child, creating a warm 'nest' for your children, how to encourage and how to punish etc.

Our director Fayek about the series: "I am personally very touched by these programs because I've found that parents in the Arab world have little awareness of creating a good environment for the growth of their children. Parents do not understand the problems, and they do not have the knowledge to help their children during their development phase. "

"I have no children, but the programs also help me! I understand my own childhood much better, thanks to directing this series. I need to do some quality control of the programs after they are edited, but I often find myself watching them from A-Z, focusing only on the content. This is so fascinating! "

"These programs are really a great step forward for parents and teachers, to help them educate and raise children in a Christian way. And we really need this in the Arab world. "



Praying for Fayek

Fayek has worked for Arab Vision for a couple of years, and he then emigrated to Canada, like many Arab Christians who seek a better life. But Fayek came back to work with Arab Vision again, to serve his country with the Gospel. "My heart is in this work, and I want to play a role in changing individuals and society through the Gospel."

Please, pray with us for the influence of these major TV series on raising children. The first 26 programs will hopefully be ready for Christmas. Please pray for our director, Fayek, as well.

Your help needed

BIBLICAL TEACHING FOR ALGERIA (US\$625)

We are planning a series of 26 Bible study programs to include Algerian Arabic. For this we need US\$ 625 per program. Please help us to Algeria with the Gospel to reach?

KURDISH TV PROGRAMS (US\$725)

A pastor in Northern Iraq (Kurdistan) would love to produce a TV series of 13 episodes about the message of Jesus Christ. US\$8,700 is needed for this project. Your contribution is highly desirable!

GOSPEL PROGRAMS FOR DEAF ARABS (US\$300)

We have at least 1000 programs "on the shelf" that would be very suitable to deaf Arabs – if only we add a deaf interpreter to it on screen. By doing this, millions of deaf Arabs will be able to 'hear' the Gospel.

For payment options, see page 4 of this newsletter.

Search for Intercessors

Without the help of the Lord God, our work would stagnate and be totally meaningless. And our Lord responds to your prayers. Will you join us in praying for our ministry? If you sign up, you will receive our prayer letter by email every other week. You can register via our website www.arabvision.org

Please, also prayerfully consider what how you may want to financially support our work. Your generosity is highly appreciated – and effective!



You can make your donation securely online at www.arabvision.org

Churches in the Arab world need our support

If you have followed the news about churches in the Arab World during the past months, you must have noticed how difficult their life is. The media have reported about oppression, murder, court cases, houses and shops being burnt. The Christians in the Arab world live under enormous pressures; no wonder they tend to behave as inconspicuously as possible, and whenever possible, to immigrate to western countries.

- Do we need to say anything about the situation in Iraq? Christians are badly persecuted and many have been murdered, even inside the church.
- Morocco has told over 100 missionaries to leave the country, and the pressure on the thousands of Moroccan followers of Jesus is higher than before.
- Algeria continues to make the lives of tens of thousands of converts from Islam difficult. The freedoms of the '90s are over.
- Libya jailed Korean missionaries earlier this year.
- In Egypt, the churches experience great tension; in recent months many Copts lost their homes and shops by attacks, and we are regularly shocked by reports of the murder of Copts.
- In Lebanon, Hizbollah is increasingly powerful, and the Maronites must be very careful. What role will Iran and Syria play?
- Yemen is on the brink of civil war; the thousands of Yemenis who in recent years became Christians are holding their breath.
- In Sudan there is the threat of a new civil war of the Islamic north against the Christian south.



Amid this misery of the Church of Jesus Christ in the Arab world, Arab Vision continues to make TV programs that encourage the church, which lead Muslims to our Lord, and that call for change of society. May the Lord give peace!

CONTACT & FINANCE INFO

Arab Vision Trust Fund
PO Box 21258
1505 Nicosia, Cyprus
E-mail: 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.

Arab Vision, Inc.
@ The Grove
71 Orange St.
New Haven, CT 06510

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

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

Interserve
PO Box 231
Bayswater
Victoria 3153
AUSTRALIA

Interserve
PO Box 10244
Auckland 1030
NEW ZEALAND

Interserve
10 Huntingdale Blvd
Scarborough, ON
M1W 2S5
CANADA

Interserve
5/6 Walker Avenue
Wolverton Mill
Milton Keynes, MK12 5TW
UNITED KINGDOM

Nadine's heart for follow up ministry:

Nadine leads a team of 25 people who are involved in the work of follow up in one of the countries in which we work. The team answers phone calls, SMS messages, emails, and web posts that lead to discussions and many times to face-to-face conversations.

In Nadine's words, "My happiness is found in seeing people released from something from which they are suffering. I try to show them how they can ask Jesus to help and am blessed to see people freed when they see Jesus working in their lives. I am blessed to see the changes in their lives... their faces, their features, their way of talking, the terms they use are all changed."

The team that Nadine leads responds to over 1500 contacts a month. Some are as short as a phone call, but others turn into months of counselling and meetings face-to-face. It is a great responsibility and joy to see God at work in so many different ways in different lives throughout the region.

Please pray for Nadine as she expressed her concerns about both governmental and spiritual opposition to the work. Please pray for protections for her and the team. She also requested prayer that the team would have a deep love for those who oppose their work.



**ARAB
VISION**

Arab Christians proclaiming the Gospel on TV in the Arab World