



## Why Jesus?

For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. (1 Cor. 2:2 NKJV).

Heading towards Christmas this is supposed to be about the cradle, not about the cross, you might think. But both cradle and cross are essential aspects of God's work of salvation, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus became human, being the Son of God, and He had to be crucified to save us from eternal death.

For Muslims and, as a matter of fact, for many modern Christian theologians as well, these are difficult concepts: Jesus, being the Son of God, and Jesus, being the one and only way to God. In this newsletter you will read about a bible study series in Algerian Arabic in which these themes are being explained to Muslims.

You will also read about the position of Christians in the Arab world, that may deteriorate after the promising revolutions that was supposed to usher an Arab spring. They need our prayers to stand firm and to be encouraged to follow their call as the Church in society: to proclaim and follow 'Jesus Christ and Him crucified', in word and action.

Please continue praying for Arab Vision as well, that together with the Church in the Arab world, we will be able to proclaim the Gospel through our TV programs.

Will you join us in this service in prayer and financial support?

May the Lord bless you!

Umm al-Farieq  
International Director Arab Vision

## Arab Christians.... Arab Spring or cold Winter?

The situation for Christians in the Arab World is more volatile than ever before, and our support for them is urgent. The Maspero massacre of 27 Copts by the Egyptian army a few weeks back was a bloody indication that the 'revolution' in Egypt has unleashed many undesirable trends. What is at stake in Egypt is whether the country develops toward a fake democracy where the majority dictates the fate of the minorities, or whether the country will adopt a style of democracy that gives equal constitutional rights to all of its citizens.



Source: W.J. de W.

20.000 Egyptian Christians gathered for a night of prayer

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## Arab Vision goes to Libya

Did you know that Libya has a rich Christian history? And that the apostle Mark was born in Libya, as well as Arius, known for his heretical opinions on the Trinity, in the fourth century? And that we know of many Christian martyrs from Libya, who died for their faith? And let us not forget the first man on earth on actually bear the cross of our Lord, Simon of Cyrene.

Arab Vision will start the production of 13 TV programs in Libya in 2012. The country is open for it, and the country needs it. We aim to create a special interest in Libya itself for the Christian heritage of that land, but we also know for a fact that programs shot in Libya will be of interest to all Arabs because of the beauty of the Roman antiquities that will be a dominant visual factor in all of these programs.

Against the backdrop of those amazing Roman ruins, and the history of the Christian faith in antique Libya, we will in a natural, educational, non-confrontational way, explain the whole Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in an attractive manner.



Please pray with us that we will actually be able to do this project. Pray for opportunities and for the funds needed. In our next newsletter we will tell you more about the project.

I like to watch your program as I want to understand about Christianity. Things here in Iraq are very hot so I can't go to a church. Iraqi man

# Pomegranates and Christians in Morocco

As our producer had to drive thousands of kilometers in Morocco to film for our series of Psalms in four dialects of that country, he had the privilege to meet a lot of people. An impression...

I was driving on the main windy mountainous road south of Hu- ceima when I asked the driver to stop to buy a few pomegranates.



A few men stood by the side of the road selling them. To my surprise, my guide told me that these are Christian believers who attend his bi-weekly Bible study.

We drove another mile and met two other Christians and we bought more pomegranates from them. Then when we invited one of them to get a ride in our car we discovered that he used to be a sheikh in nearby village. He pointed out the mosque where he used to preach. The imam in our car told me that since he left Islam, his whole family became believers.

He estimated that about 15 out of 50 families from his village are now followers of Jesus. It seems that the Rifi Berbers are enjoying relative freedom to worship. We pray they will have wisdom to share and continue to be bold in declaring their faith publically.

It seems that the greatest need for the church in Morocco is to find premises to meet for worship. Most Christians have limited resources and do not live in big homes. Another problem arises when only one or two members are believers and the rest of the family is still Muslim.

The Berber dialects of Morocco are quite different from each other and share very few common words. It seems that people from the different groups do not understand each other and many do not speak Arabic.

Trying to film in this society is not easy. Please continue to pray for us, for the project and for our brothers and sisters in Morocco.



I just woke up and washed my face with my tears. I don't remember when I drew a smile on people's faces... You touched my soul and my heart; thank you very much, you drew a smile on my face :-) It is such a positive thing you did; God bless you!

[Comment on Facebook.](#)

## Why Jesus Christ?

### Bible Study series in Algerian Arabic

5 Years ago in Algeria a law was adopted to only allow Christians to worship in premises that are officially registered as church buildings. That law is still functional, and it is also still forbidden for Christians to share the Gospel with Muslims.

In our recently produced TV series of 13 episodes, the Algerian presenter Abdelkader explains why all people need Jesus Christ.



"In the Islam sin has a different meaning than in the bible", says Abdelkader. "That's why many Moslims don't have a strong consciousness of sin and don't understand why they need redemption." The first part of the series focuses on the holiness of God and

in the second part the life of Jesus and his salvation are explained. The series will be broadcast from December.

Algerian Christians are pleased by the positive development for the Protestant Church of Algeria

(EPA). The application to re-register the EPA was accepted some months ago, and thus the buildings of the EPA churches will have church-status again so that believers are allowed to worship there. Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Algeria, and also that many Algerians will watch the series 'Why Jesus Christ?', and will start understanding why they all need Jesus?



# Producing Now...

## Programs for Arab women

We are producing a TV series for Arab women in which the host discusses essential topics with the guests in the program. These will be matters like the rights of women in Arab society, the value of educating women, shame and family's honor, domestic violence and emotional abuse. Many of these topics are seldom discussed among women, couples, or family, let alone presented and discussed on TV. After the recent events in Egypt where churches were attacked and almost 30 Copts killed, people find it more difficult to decide appearing in a Christian TV program. For this series we had to find new participants in the last minute, because some women withdrew out of fear. Pray that Christian women in Egypt will overcome their fear, to speak openly about their faith and the impact of the Christian faith on their daily lives.



## The Gospel explained and Testimonies for the Kurds



We are finalizing two series in Kurdish Sourani; one is focusing on biblical teaching and the other is a series with testimonies, meditations, songs and bible study. For the second part of these series our production team had to travel and film Kurds in several European countries; in Kurdistan itself it had become too dangerous to film local people, which we had been able to do for the first part of the series. These programs will be broadcast soon. Please pray that many Kurds will accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour through these programs.

>>continued from page 1

## Arab Christians.... *Arab Spring or cold Winter?*

Arab Vision is producing a series of TV programs to train the Arab World in what democracy actually means; that is, that within the framework of equal civil rights, all citizens are able to play a role in deciding about the makeup of their parliament and their government. And this parliament and its government are held by law to defend the integrity and the rights of all people. The signs are not good in Egypt. Therefore we do all we can to now influence the course of the nation. We do this by continuing our mission to broadcast the Gospel of Salvation by Jesus Christ, but we do not shun showing the impact of our Christians views on the political process as well.

All international attention presently goes to the situation of the Christians of Egypt, but the Church in Syria is in a much more critical situation. As the Christian of Syria have, with some other minorities, benefitted from the secular regime of the Assad family, no-one knows what will happen if that regime falls. It is not unlikely that the new majority, of Sunni Muslims, will look very unkindly on any minorities that benefitted from the Assad regime. Therefore it is also important that we influence the course of Syria's search for democracy by focussing on the issue of individual human rights. For the Christians of Egypt and Syria, this is urgent.

Your prayers and your support for our work of defending the Churches of Arab World are important. Do not forget to also pray for the tiny Church of our Lord in Tunisia, where the population through fair elections brought an Islamicist party to power. This does not spell good for the church in Tunisia. And pray for the Christians in Libya, where the new rulers who replaced the dictator Qaddafi, announced that from now on the Islamic sharia will be a major source for the legislation.

## Just finished....

### Christian family life



We have just finalized a second series on raising children and Christian family life. After the first series we received a lot of response and requests for help. Raising kids and helping them in their development is a problem in many Arab families; these programs provide concrete help and support. Broadcasting of the series will start in December.

## About to produce...

### The role of the Church in changing Arab societies

In previous newsletters we have mentioned that we are dreaming of producing a series of TV programs for supporting the process of democracy in the Arab context. Part of this project is the production of programs that focus especially on strengthening the position of the Church in the Arab societies in flux. We don't know yet whether the changes in the Arab world will be for better or for worse for Arab Christians, but many of them do feel that they have to stand up now and take a stand to defend their rightful position in public life. We are grateful that we have received the major part of the funds needed for these documentaries. We hope for your help as well!

**I hope you will pray for my friend because he is a Muslim; he likes Christians and he wants to become a Christian. - Egyptian man**

**You can make your donation securely online at [www.arabvision.org](http://www.arabvision.org)**

# Testimony: A present day Hannah

Our TV producer Amir has been passionately working with Arab Vision for over ten years now. He is often deeply moved by the testimonies he hears from people he meets in his work. This year he is producing the fourth season of a series for Arab women. When asked whether he could share a story from the programs now being produced, he tells: "About this season of women programs, we did a lot of great stories; they are all impressive, but the one that I have been touched by the most, is Soher's story from Egypt. This lady couldn't get pregnant for more than 15 years. She is from Upper Egypt, where they hold the tradition that giving birth is a family honour, and where it is a shame for a woman to not have children. Like Hannah from the bible, who was ashamed for not being able to give her husband children, Soher felt the same. Her husband's family used to treat her very badly, to the extent that her father-in-law

beat her so hard, that she lost her right eye. When she tried to get medical help, they prevented her from doing so, as they believed this to be an action against God's will. Through all this, Soher kept her faith and always believed that no matter how much time would pass, one day God would reward her and give her what she longed for. But after 15 years of struggle, medical treatments and surgery, her hope started to fade, as no divine intervention was likely to happen. Her future seemed so bleak, and in her heart she started thinking that God had left her; she started to accept what seemed to be God's will in her life.

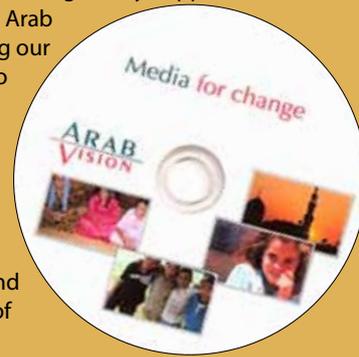
Suddenly and completely naturally she got pregnant, and had a healthy son, followed by another one three years later. I like this story particularly, because I saw an amazing faith in this lady."

This is only one out of 26 stories; the series will be finished by the end of 2011, and will then be broadcast by several satellite channels, several times. Please pray that this project will be light and salt for millions of Arab people watching – and we know that both women and men watch these programs, and respond.



## New! Promotional video about Arab Vision

Although new changes may happen quickly in the Arab world, causing our new promo to be outdated soon again, we launched our new 7 minutes video on the Arab world and the ministry of Arab Vision.

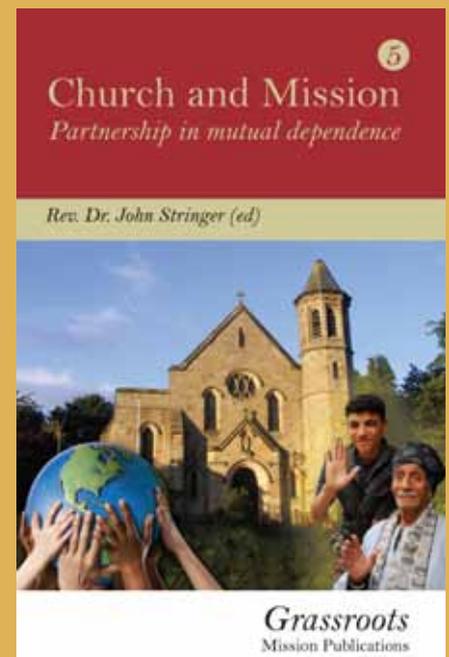


Please go to our website [www.arabvision.org](http://www.arabvision.org) to find out when the video has been uploaded. You can watch it there and download it. Please feel free to use it to share our ministry with your friends, family and your church. To cover the cost of the production of this promo, your (small) donation is welcome!

## New! Church and Mission

*Partnership in mutual dependence*

This fifth book in our Grassroots series discusses the relationships, both factual and ideally, between sending churches, missionaries and their agencies, and churches in the countries where those missionaries work. Those relationships are often problematic. What can be done to better cooperate in the one mission of Jesus Christ? Church leaders and mission leaders presented and discussed the papers that are published in this important book. Order by mail: [contact@arabvision.org](mailto:contact@arabvision.org). Price: 10\$, excluding postage. The Grassroots series is an Arab Vision/Interserve Publication.



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**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.

**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](http://www.arabvision.org). This is a secure payment facility.

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**ARAB  
VISION**

*Arab Christians proclaiming the Gospel on TV in the Arab World*