

Come to me, all you who are weary...

There have been migrants and refugees throughout history: men, women and children trudging along with bundles on their back, in wagons or prams; or overloaded boats at sea.

Some flee from unbearable conditions, hoping for anything. Others leave unsatisfactory conditions, hoping for something better. Both aim towards a goal, motivated by hope. Humanly speaking the problem is insoluble, or at best highly complex, but it is not new.

The Israelites were refugees from slavery in Egypt, but at the beginning and the end of their quest was the promise and provision of God – with a history-changing consequence. Elijah fled the wrath of Jezebel, to rescue his life from her hand and to place it into God's.

We cannot always assess what motivates a refugee's action, but God can. Nations cannot usually accept all who turn up at their borders – but God can and does.

Jesus said: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light" (Matt 11:28-30). Praise God that those words are still true, powerful and effective!

Thank you for all your support, enabling us continually to bring the hope of the Lord Jesus to men, women and children who are, spiritually, emotionally, physically, weary and burdened.

Umm al Farieq

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International Director Arab Vision

Hungry to know more about Jesus

Nabil is a Tunisian man who came to know Jesus while he was studying abroad. After returning to Tunisia he contacted the Arab Vision follow-up team asking if we could put him in touch with local Christians. The team sent him the details of a respected church and also contacted the pastor with the information. A week later the pastor shared with us that his contact with Nabil was very fruitful. Nabil had travelled 4 hours in bad weather to meet him. He was hungry to know more about Jesus and to learn about prayer. Nabil also shared with us how much he appreciated our work for him.

Our follow-up team is daily in touch with dozens of people who want to know more about Jesus. In our previous newsletter we wrote about the growing trend of atheism in the Arab World, but at the same time thousands of people are looking for answers in the Christian faith.

The team earnestly prays for everyone with whom they are in contact. Someone who recently attended one of their prayer times wrote: "Prayer time with the follow-up team is so special, they are really devoted. While they were praying today I could clearly feel the power of God being present in the room."

Please continue to pray for much wisdom and discernment for the team.

Turn to Jesus ...

Marwa is a young Muslim lady who became suicidal because of some problems in her life. She has a Christian friend who suggested that she pray in the name of Jesus. Marwa was too afraid to do this and her problems worsened. Her Christian friend continued to encourage her to turn to Jesus and suggested that she read the Bible from the internet and learn about the Christian faith through Christian satellite TV channels. She began to do this and contacted us using the follow-up information on one of our programs. Our team has been helping her to understand the Gospel and is now discussing baptism with her.



We must keep praying for you

"In the midst of some awful news about the Middle East, your reports have an encouraging effect on other Christians. We must keep praying for you and the searching Muslim people. May God bless and use you mightily."

Friend of Arab Vision in Australia

Media for Change

Women in the Bible

In our March newsletter we interviewed the scriptwriter of our new program series *Women in the Bible*. The scripts are now finished and we will soon start producing the series. The following is from one of the episodes in the series.

Early in the morning two women are walking on the road. One (Z) is Zebedee's wife, mother of James and John. The other (Y) is Yossi, one of the many women who followed Jesus to Jerusalem. This is an excerpt from their conversation, based on Matthew 20: 17-28.

Z: "Look, I am not going to ask him for anything for myself, only for my boys. There is nothing wrong with that!"

Y: "Wrong? What exactly are you going to ask him for?"

Z: "Look, I'll tell you, but I need to tell James and John first."

Y: "Wait. I really wonder about your request and I'm not at ease about it."

Z: "Do you know what my request is going to be then?"

Y: "No, but I am uncomfortable with it. I feel it's not the right time to request something for your sons."

Z: "Why not? It's for them; they left their jobs and followed him for three years."

Y: "Yes, but so did all of them."

Z: "But don't forget that we are related to him, so he won't refuse my request."

Y: "But he once said that anyone who does the will of the Heavenly Father is his relative."

Z: "I will no longer talk to you! Together with my sons I'll go to him and will request something good for them."

Through this series Arab Vision wants to highlight the role of women in both the Old and the New Testament in God's salvation history. The programs will be filmed in Egypt and Jordan. Please pray for safety and creativity of our production crew.



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.

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If you would like to make an on-line donation, you can do so via PayPal on our website www.arabvision.org



Can you help?

365 Bible stories for children Prayer needed

Children all over the world love listening to stories, especially while sitting on grandma's or grandpa's lap! We are planning to produce a TV series of 365 bible stories for an audience of young Arab children, age 3-6, both Christian and Muslim, to make them familiar with all the treasures that God wants to share with us through his Word.

We ask your prayer for this project, while we are waiting for the response from one of our broadcasting partners to our proposal to produce these programs for them. Please pray for a positive answer so that we can start preparations for this series.

"Just a couple of words" US\$ 4500 or €4000

Remember that in our June newsletter we wrote about (young) Arab people turning to atheism, as they are no longer satisfied with the 'standard' answers from parents and pastors about the Christian faith? What many of these young people actually ask for is straightforward teaching of biblical principles in an atmosphere where not all questions need to be answered and not all doubts are criticized, but where the depths and joys of the Christian faith are shared. Could you help us produce this series?

General donations are most welcome!

Any gift will be spent to improve our ministry

Please consider giving a general gift; we will use it for helping our staff develop their professional and personal skills - one of the key values of our ministry. Also we would love to raise our local salaries in the Middle East, as costs of living keep going up dramatically, and we haven't been able to keep up with those developments.