



Outreach Hit Hard at Home

Dear Friend in Jesus! Although many of us abide safe in Christ, there are many out there who still haven't decided to follow Him. Tomorrow is guaranteed to no one. The Bible nowhere promises a 'five-year plan'. The best way to prepare for tomorrow, is to be repentant and obedient today. That is why I am writing to express my gratitude for your support of our ministry outreach to Muslims. The past semester has been the busiest ever. Although there are a lot of issues to share, I will highlight only a few that have put me on a jarring roller coaster of steep emotions in my grief.

Hit Hard at Home

"Sahil" communicated with me online off and on for around five years, asking questions about Christ. In May, I was on a live Satellite show, sharing my testimony. Little did I know, Sahil was watching that program and accepted Jesus! In July, I learned that "Sahil" was in fact Shaista, my 35-year-old niece! In spite of all odds against her in the northern region of Pakistan, she decided to be counted on His side. Karen and I were overjoyed and prayed daily for her and her family. We wanted so much to see them and rejoice with her but resolved to rejoice in the thoughts.

On September 13, Shaista and her husband Asif died in a terrorist blast in Multan City, leaving their precious 5-year-old boy Anis an orphan. (Though we are unsure of his whereabouts, please pray with us that he would be raised up to know Christ.) I received the painful news a few days later from a friend. All day long, I grappled with the gut-wrenching question: How does God allow one so young to die and another – me – to live long against all odds? How come, God, You let James be beheaded so soon yet let Peter live another decade (Acts 12:2ff)? In profound sorrow, I was also thinking about those who were here in this world yesterday and not here today. As I pondered, the only answer that came to me was: God sent His Son, His divine mercy, into this world that whoever believes in Him will have eternal life. We are grateful to know Shaista is there with Christ.

Pilgrim's Progress?

Every year, millions of Muslims around the world make the religious journey known as Hajj to Mecca. As one of the five 'pillars' of Islam, Hajj is a requirement for Muslims to perform at least once in a life, if physically and financially able (Qur'an 2:196ff). Almost every year it seems, many people die in stampedes. This year, around a thousand people died. Rahman is a Muslim friend who continues to learn about Jesus. Two days ago, I learned that his father was among the pilgrims who died in the stampede. (Please pray for him and other Muslims who lost loved ones to seek the true God as a result.) I asked myself: Steven, how many of them knew Jesus as their Savior? If any did, would they have even been there? The Lord dwells no more in a temple made of bricks and mortar; He lives in the hearts of His believers (1 Corinthians 3:16).

God, in his wisdom is bringing Muslims to the Western shores (Acts 17:26). Millions of Muslims now reside in the US, and the number is expected to double – or grow even more quickly – in the decade to come. Jesus' followers are the salt and light (Matthew 5:13-14) to reach them for Christ.

With such thoughts, I was preparing a PowerPoint presentation about Abraham for my Bible class, based on my book *Jesus or Muhammad: A Question of Assurance*. Muslims believe that Abraham and Ishmael built the temple of Ka'ba in Mecca. Well, Biblically, they never put a foot in that land. We have an article on this subject at www.JesusToMuslims.org (Click on *Hajj: A Biblical Perspective*).

How Current Power Struggles in the Muslim World Affect the USA

The USA is to increase the number of refugees allowed by 15,000 in each of the next two years. That will bring a total of 100,000 refugees by 2017.

The USA, like virtually every other Western country, has agreed to accept thousands of Muslim immigrants *en masse*.

The mission field is coming to American Christians. Jesus' followers are the salt and light (Matthew 5:13-14) to reach them for Christ. True, current events are causing many to resent and fear the Muslim population. Nevertheless, Christians who understand God's heart for the nations are seizing this strategic opportunity that now lies before the Church – to defeat militancy and jihadism with the Good News of the Cross and Jesus' Resurrection from the dead – the assurance of eternal life through Him!

In the past, sharing Christ with Muslims was a slow and laborious process. It meant sending people into distant countries that are resistant to the Gospel. Now, God in His wisdom is bringing Muslims to Western shores (Acts 17:26). Millions of Muslims now reside in the US, and the number is expected to double – or grow even more quickly – in the decade to come. We see this as an opportunity!

At *Jesus to Muslims*, our mission field is of several fronts: to reach out with His love to Muslims, to prepare other Christians to do so as well, and to also reach out to local Westerners who have forgotten Christ. These things have to be in tandem and are not mutually exclusive at all.

POINT OF PRAYER

- ❖ We are personally grateful to each of you who pray for us and support us financially. That's why I'm writing to express my gratitude for your support of our ministry outreach to Muslims and our equipping brothers and sisters in Christ to share His love with Muslims too. With your help, we will continue to find ways to reach more Muslims with the Gospel. Please pray for us and for the churches engaged in Muslim outreach, for courage and His words to say (Ephesians 6:19).
- ❖ Evangelizing Muslims involves an intense and costly spiritual battle. Pray that more Muslims will read our websites and view or listen to our programs. Pray also for the Muslims hearing the message, that God will open their hearts and minds through the Holy Spirit, convicting them to embrace Jesus as the only Savior. Muslims considering Christ need courage. They stand to lose their families, jobs, and possibly their lives if they abandon Islam.
- ❖ The Lord will continue to prove that He can overcome every obstacle as He draws lost souls to Himself. God's power will ultimately prevail! While Karen and I did not get to see Shaista and her family in this life, we will see her soon for eternity! "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain." – Philippians 1:21 (NIV)

Do we have your latest e-mail address?

Many of our e-mails sent to you come back due to change in your e-mail address.

Please send us your recent e-mail address so we may correct our *record*.

JESUS TO MUSLIMS: FINANCIAL ASPECTS

Jesus to Muslims relies solely on God through the generosity of our donors: to reach Muslims with the Gospel, to expand our outreach, to hold seminars to equip Christians, as well as to research and publish material for truth seekers.

Funds in total received:

August 2015 : \$07,330.88

September 2015: \$04,980.00

Monthly Need is \$15,000

Although past semester the funding was low, we praise God for His providence and expect a rescue according to His will.

If you are mailing your gift, please use the envelope provided.

For online giving, please go to: www.JesusToMuslims.org and click on "Support". Donations are tax deductible.