

## News from Allen and Deedee 20 May 2020

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Dear friends and family, Thank you for your prayers and encouragement!

How are you doing? Please let us know any specific prayer requests (see our contact information below): we are praying for you, especially that you experience the Lord's peace and protection.

As Psalm 46 reminds us all: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear... The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge... Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" Even in the midst of all the world's troubles, God Himself is present and cares for each of us. If we really know this, we should trust Him, and seek to glorify Him in everything we do.

We are very encouraged to see how "God can make a way out of no way." Even while international travel has paused and passenger ferry ports are closed, the Lord is bringing His Word to people from North Africa and the Middle East. More people than ever are connecting with God's Word through online church services and through other forms of digital ministry.

Late last year, our team started a social media outreach to North African students in Spain and France; it's a site where we post short videos, clips from the JESUS Film, and Bible quotes. Our Arabic-speaking teammate answers comments and questions online or via email. Now she has other Christians (who she trained) helping her interact with all the students who want to know more about Jesus. In just one day, a few weeks ago, through this particular ministry, three students made decisions to follow Jesus as their Savior and Lord. These new believers (and many others like them) are continuing to stay in contact via technology, and they are growing in their relationships with Jesus. Our team has been praying to see things like this happen! We also are happy to see how local Christians have been eager and excited to be involved in this ministry.

From all across our ministry region, our colleagues have been reporting a greater response than ever to their online social media ministries. North African Christians from three different countries, who had gotten evangelism training in past Operation Transit outreaches, recently shared the following: In one week, just after travel restrictions started, they saw 18 people make decisions to follow Jesus Christ. More recently, 12 of those people were involved with follow-up Bible studies, and 26 additional people indicated decisions to trust Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

**Thank you for praying!** Your encouragement, intercession, and support makes our work here possible. Please keep praying for God to bless all of the ongoing online outreach, follow-up, and virtual fellowship. Pray that the Lord would encourage the new believers as well as the Christian workers, protecting each one and strengthening them in their faith. Finally, pray for God to guide our team here, giving us ongoing wisdom and clarity on how to best fulfill our ministry in the midst of changing circumstances in the days and months to come. May God bless you and strengthen you and be your very present help in trouble;      Serving with you,

*Allen and Deedee*