

Prayer Bulletin December 2022



The grace of God in Jesus Christ

"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age." (Titus 2:11-12)

Dear prayer partners,

the grace of God is personified in Jesus Christ. He came into the world and became a human being like us. God's plan of salvation for us spreads itself from the manger to the cross and resurrection. With Jesus living in and through us, our character is changed, and God's nature becomes active and visible in us.

Our Current Concerns

CM Christmas Campaign: We are doing a Christmas campaign for the children of MBB refugees stranded in **Turkey**, mainly from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and Iran. There are 17 CM-affiliated MBB (Muslim Background Believer) churches in Turkey, which together have more than 1,000 children. Using a total of €30,000 CM aims at providing 1,000 refugee children from MBB families, who otherwise receive no financial help and live in abject poverty. This will provide each with a jacket, a pair of usable shoes and a small toy gift.

CM has been doing training of the leaders of the MBB communities for a long time, but when board members observed the children of the communities last winter, some of whom had no jacket and only bathing shoes on, the idea emerged: help must be given in this area too. The clothes, shoes and toys have already been ordered from Turkish wholesalers, and now they have to be paid for. Would you like to help spread Christmas joy through concrete help? With just €30 you make an MBB child warm and happy. You can find the bank details in the footer of this letter. Please add the purpose of use "Christmas gift". Please pray for the growth of the MBB movement in Turkey and that provisions will be given, and that most adults will be able to earn income through work.

Somalia/Somaliland: We have received requests from our people in Somalia, Somaliland, and Ethiopia to intercede on behalf of the struggling community of MBBs in their area. Many Somali believers from Muslim background are coming to know the Lord and the church is growing, but the Somali believers face persecution and hardships as they decide to follow Christ. So, pray with us for strength, courage and perseverance in the midst of the challenge of persecution and hardships. Pray for the believers who are in jail in Somaliland for being followers of Christ, for protection and that they may get their freedom back soon. Pray for the Somali nation in general, for the spread of the Gospel among Somalis and that it may bring transformation, peace, and reconciliation to the Somali nation. Pray for protection and providence for the kingdom workers among Somalis, especially for those who are so effective in media ministries to Somalis.

Europe: We reported last month on the exciting developments in MBB training in **Switzerland** for German speaking Europe. Now there is a follow-up: In October 2022 the discipleship and leadership

training course «Cultures» started in Switzerland. CM is one of the partners in the training which is meant for Christians from a migrant background as well as MBBs. Students can choose between the courses «Discipleship and Identity» and «Leadership and Church Planting». The participating 17 students come from countries such as Iran, Turkey, Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria and from the Ukraine. Please pray that it will be a life-changing time for them, that they might grow in their faith and identity in Jesus and that they will be well integrated into the local churches. <https://andcultures.ch/>

Cooperation with global players in contextual theology and discipling MBBs: CM is privileged to have excellent world-class partners in theology and discipleship training. During the last weeks we have been in intense communication with leaders in Disciple Making Movements(DMMs) in **Africa and South East Asia** as well as with others involved in developing discipleship courses in the Islamic contexts including two of the most effective theologians working in this field. We had two conferences with theologians and course developers such as the author of “Come follow me” as well as an internal consultation with the Author of “Liberty to the Captives”. Out of these meetings, the network of MBB theologians “HIKMA Research Partnership” (hikmah is Arabic for wisdom) and “Paths of Life” ministry were officially kicked off.

Pray that these two major CM partners will expand the scope and depth of the dissemination of quality discipleship materials in all forms of communication, and that these materials will equip the MBBs with relevant resources to be used for fellowship, MBB church growth, and in “... demolish[ing] arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, ...” (2 Cor. 10:5)

MBBGlobal: Last week was the third annual MBB Global Day of Prayer. It was an amazing day and a great success. The event was broadcast on 73 channels, and in 5 different languages: English, Arabic, Urdu, Farsi and Turkish. Many churches and groups formed zoom meetings in different parts of the world to pray together, and Al Hayat Ministries Brazil organized a 24h zoom prayer meeting consisting of 1,400 participants (churches or organizations or individuals), with 51,920 individuals participating.

The program was watched in at least 40 countries. Viewers from the following countries contacted us to let us know that they are watching and praying with and for MBBs: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, The Gambia, Germany, The Netherlands, India, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, USA, Yemen.

You can watch the MBB Global Day of Prayer here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJTHOcB08kM>

Thank you for supporting us in prayer.
Have a blessed Advent season!
Yassir Eric and co-workers

