



Tooth Tales

A Newsletter of Jack & Jennifer Mitchell

September 2016

Dear Friends,

Coming home to New England is always a blessing! After two weeks of treating people with difficult needs, traveling every few days within Lebanon, getting a first-hand education into the complexities of Middle Eastern culture and thought and speaking in and interacting with believers in several churches, we are tired but blessed. It was obvious that we were carried by your prayers and we thank you. We want to praise the Lord specifically for the safety He provided for us as we stayed and worked in sensitive areas and yet felt at peace. We also thank Him for the rich fellowship with American missionaries stationed there and for the hospitality of Lebanese pastors and others who stuffed us with their flavorful food. We certainly were well cared for.



Jennifer with refugee friends

We found the need for our ministry to be great in Lebanon. With 1.1 million refugees from Syria (and an unknown number of illegal ones) flooding into a country with a population of only 4.5 million, you can imagine the demand on the economy there and the natural reluctance



Gospel presentation

of the government to be generous to those who have been political enemies. There are also Iraqi refugees of growing numbers being forced out by ISIS and fleeing to the one country in the Middle East that guarantees freedom of religion, at least by law. But the loving heart of our Savior toward "the stranger" is being manifested in some Christian ministries in this delicately balanced society, dominated by Islam (both Sunni and Shiite) and Catholicism. Only God could make the needed freedom possible to carry on open evangelism in these sometimes religiously intense areas. Praise the Lord, these "strangers" are responding to the gospel as they live away from their comfortable surroundings, families, and dominating religion. As true Christianity is modeled in many of the ministries we worked



Night time dentistry

with and the truth of the gospel faithfully taught, people humbled by the devastations of war are turning to Christ! It was precious to hear their testimonies firsthand and we counted it a privilege to be part of helping them with their needs. We see great potential for follow up ministry in this beautiful country.



Treating a special needs child

On October 1st, Grace Dental and Medical Missions will celebrate twenty years of Christian service, having had ministry in over thirty countries. Little did we know in 1994 what God had in mind for the future as we made our first ministry trip to Senegal, West Africa. It was not until 1996 that we felt God's call to serve Him in dental evangelism. Thank you to all of you who have prayed for us, supported us financially and have stood behind us as we have sought to follow God's leading these past twenty years. We could not have gotten to this point without the support of God and His people. Thank you for your confidence in His work through imperfect people. We rightly give Him all the glory for what has been accomplished.

In November we will need your prayers more than ever as we plan to have ministry in another sensitive Middle East area, focusing on Palestinian refugees. A small fundamental Baptist church exists there and desires to reach out to its somewhat hostile neighbors by using medical missions. A team of five from GDM Missions (doctor, nurse, pharmacy tech, dentist and assistant (us!)) will go for two weeks of ministry if all the complicated details can be worked out. A verse that has become very precious as we consider all of this is Genesis 28:15, "And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land, for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of." We ask that your prayers might carry us once again as we seek to serve our Savior.

Sincerely in Christ,

Jack and Jennifer Mitchell

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