



Dear Friends,

Bec was finally able to take not one but two trips as part of her new role. The first was to attend an in person board meeting for our region and to spend time with one of our rapidly growing teams. The board is comprised of a mix of local believers and people from our organisation and the meeting was very encouraging as they talked about opportunities, finances and policies that will help us sharpen our focus and ability to achieve our vision across the region, In the city that hosted the meeting our team has grown from just 3 adults to 9 with 4 more due to arrive in the next year, God is doing amazing things bringing people from a diverse range of backgrounds with surprising skills. They are now wrestling with new and exciting opportunities to strengthen the local church and reach the unreached that we would have never thought possible, like equipping migrant workers to be a light to their employers or training young cross-cultural workers sent from Asia. It was great to be with team members face to face and encourage the new team leader in his leadership,

Bec then attended a gathering of about 150 leaders from our global organisation. It was a great opportunity to connect with leaders in other offices. She was able to have encouraging conversations with others wrestling with what it looks to place people in market-place professional roles in order to reach people in the place where they spend most of their time - at work. She was also able to share about the many varied opportunities across the Middle East with leaders recruiting from places as varied as Singapore, the Phillipines, NZ, USA, Canada, East and West Africa and France. Please pray that God would be using these conversations to grow diverse and thriving teams around the Middle East.

Andrew has taken on an under 17s teams and managed to turn around a losing streak into 5 wins in a row. The team is from very mixed backgrounds so he is learning lots about the different challenges faced by young athletes during both Ramadan and Lent and trying to help them navigate this with sensitivity and wisdom. This period provides lots of opportunities to talk about the why of their devotion. His senior team starts their league in just four weeks so is entering an intense period of preparation. Pray for Andrew to be able to balance these two teams and all the relationships involved well.

The intense period of upheaval and uncertainty during war has meant disruption to a lot of our relationships and we find ourselves longing to find good supportive and sustaining relationships with believers here. Please pray that God would put some of these people in our lives and for wisdom about how to invest our time and energy in the various communities around us.

With love,  
Andrew, Bec, Jem, Mac and Tad

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### **WE NEED TO RAISE ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Our monthly support levels have dropped over the past year and some months are only at about 80% of our need.

Regular, ongoing giving enables us to invest in developing long-term relationships and building bridges between the church and communities where He is least known. It will make it possible for us to support more than 50 workers across the Middle East, build sustainable models and thrive as a family in a difficult location.

One off gifts will also help us cover any deficit accrued over the past year.

You can give at this link:

<https://bit.ly/4hCNJgk>

For more information, if you would like to give through an office outside Australia or for any questions please email us at [andrewandbec@outlook.com](mailto:andrewandbec@outlook.com) or contact the Australian Partner Relations Team on 1300 746 580

PLEASE PRAY

**Regional Conference 28 March - 1 April**

More than 50 adults and 35 children serving in 7 different countries with gather together.

Pray that it would be a time of refreshment and learning as we seek to grow together.

### Home Assignment

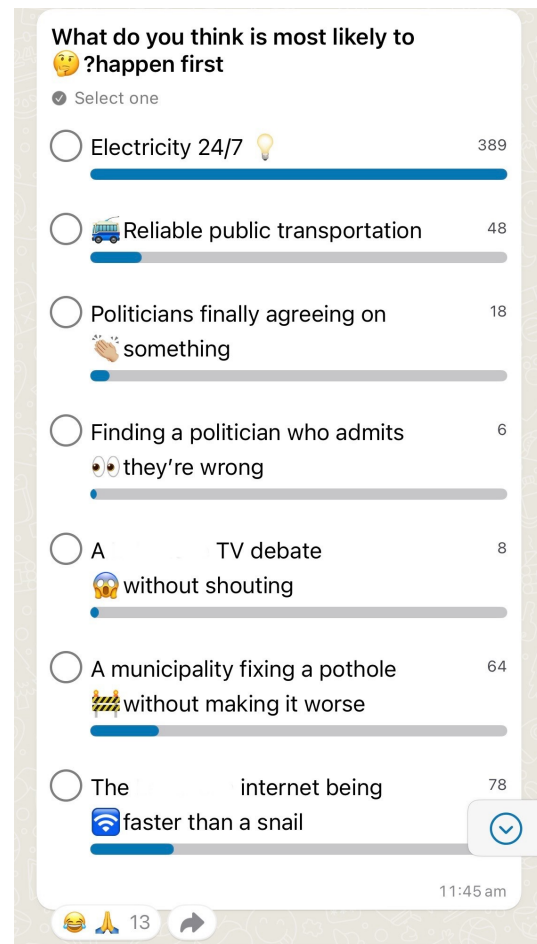
Pray for clarity about plans to return to Australia for 2 months in the middle of the year.

### This period of devotion

Pray that the fasting period for both religions provides opportunities to connect and discuss deeper things.

## Renewed optimism

The last few months have seen a new ceasefire, a new President, Prime Minister and new Ministers. There is an optimism in our local friends we have not seen in the whole time we have been here. It is still a cautious one mixed with the usual attitudes of fatalism, cynicism and self-determination but the glimmer is there. Please pray that this optimism would be well-founded and the coming period would be one of stability and growth for an exhausted people.



A poll on the local WhatsApp News Channel

## Want us to join you on zoom?

Late last year we hosted a number of you for an impromptu zoom prayer meeting. We received quite a lot of feedback that people would be interested in more of these.

Rather than offer another random time we thought we would let you invite us!

If you would like to gather a small group to chat to us for 30 minutes on zoom let us

know and we will set something up!

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