

Dear Friends,

Thanks for your prayers for our regional conference. We spent four days reflecting on Philppians and what it means to live our lives for, like, in and with Christ. We spent time hearing from some local pastors and from some of our own people and discussing challenges and opportunities in our communities. The faithfulness, diversity and resilience of our people was definitely on display as Bec led them to reflect on how we find our way together in uncertain times and contexts. A highlight was definitely hearing from and having a chance to pray with each of the 50 people who are serving on our teams around the region. There was a beautiful vulnerability among everyone with tears from weariness and frustrations but joy at things God has been doing and hope at doors that are opening.

- A local pastor with years of experience pastoring and counseling who has seen many, many foreigners come and go from his country reminded us that if you focus on projects, when you leave the project finishes. He encouraged us to focus on people and focus on vision, because when you leave vision and local believers remain.
- A doctor employed in the government health system in a large city shared that working in professional, secular contexts while challenging was a place of equality that presented amazing opportunities where people behave more naturally and you are able to witness more naturally.
- A worker who has served in the region for 40 years shared how there had been times where he was discouraged by broken relationships with people he had invested in but that he could look back and see God's faithfulness at work.

The 35 kids were beautifully cared for by a team from the US and our own kids were challenged and encouraged and came away asking big but important

questions.

Please see below for some things that are coming up and some ways you can pray and support us,

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

## 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 the deficit accrued over the past year.

Email us for a giving link.

For more information, if you would like to give through an office outside Australia or for any questions please email us at <a href="mailto:andrewandbec@outlook.com">andrewandbec@outlook.com</a> or contact the Australian Partner Relations Team on 1300 746 580

## PLEASE PRAY

- 16-27 School Holidays
- 16 April: Time with some colleagues visiting from another country
- 17 April: Time as a team celebrating Easter
- 19 April: After many delays, the Senior Men's team season starts!

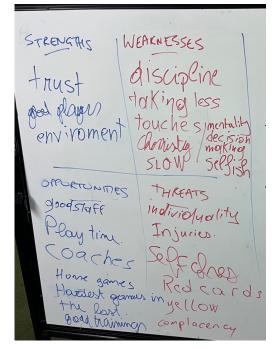
Pray for opportunties to share life over Easter as our friends from traditional backgrounds spend more time visiting churches and performing rituals.

Pray for a good start to the Men's season and for growing relationships under the pressure of competition.

Pray for the many people enquiring about joining us in the Middle East and for Bec as she walks with them.



Image of a Phonecian boat we found while exploring our city that Bec was able to share while using wayfinding as an analogy for leading through uncertainty.



Under 17s reflecting on how the season is going. Encouraging to see their relationship with their coaches being an opportunity!

## **Home Assignment**

We will be back in Sydney for August and some of July and September!

We are busy lining up events and opportunities to spend time with people during that time so please get in touch if you would like to see us.

If you are aware of opportunties to house-sit or places we could stay in Sydney during that time please let us know.

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