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NICH & TRICIA BEEBEE

Coaching & Resourcing Cru Staff & Families serving Internationally

Oasis // the Middle East

Tavi, a student in the Middle East, wanders through the campus library, searching for something. He takes a break at the campus cafe, where he runs into a Cru intern he knows named Mike. They sit down together.

Tavi asks Mike to tell him about the Bible, and they explore a Bible app together while Mike gives a general overview of the Old and New Testaments.

“What do I do with the Bible?” Tavi asks.

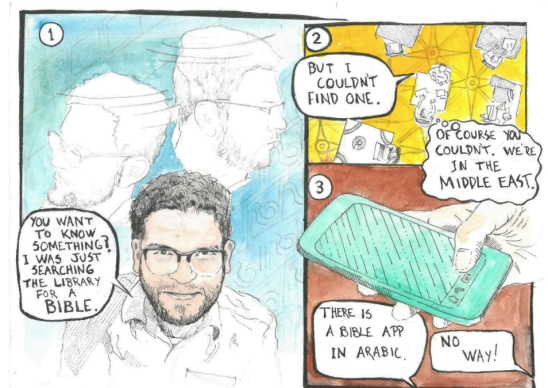
“Well,” laughs Mike, “you read it.”

Mike explains that the best way to read Scripture is with others. When he asks if Tavi would be interested in reading with him, Tavi says, “I’d love to.”

“I’m free Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays,” says Mike. “When would you like to meet?”

“I’d like to meet Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays,” says Tavi.

“O-oh. OK.”



Over the course of the next 10 months, Tavi begins to study the Bible with Mike, and Tavi starts to understand Scripture, the gospel and what it means for someone to be saved. But for many in the Middle East, choosing to follow Christ or even reading a Bible can result in the loss of friends, family, and socioeconomic status. It can also result in abuse, isolation, jail and in some cases death. Because culture and religion are inseparable in some areas, for many people converting to Christianity or questioning the dominant religion can be seen as a betrayal of their culture and way of life.

“Maybe I’ll be in my 50s and he’ll message me one day and say, ‘Mike, the last 20 years of talking have brought me to a place that I can make this decision,’” says Mike. “At that point, that will be the most worthwhile thing I’ll probably ever hear.”

Tavi’s struggle represents the many struggles going on in the hearts of individuals in North Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia. Following Christ has a real cost there, yet the many people who find the cost worth the gain further magnify the value of God’s gift to humankind in Christ. Their choice glorifies the Giver.

Please pray alongside us for Tavi and many like him searching for Christ in North Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia, that they would be drawn to the words, life and love of Jesus.

Pray also for Mike and other interns and staff who we care for, equip and resource, that they would continue to trust God for the results of their conversations.

Praising God for you always,

NICH & Tricia



Nich & Tricia (taking this photo) in Orlando at our Sending Guild mtgs last week.



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