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<u>CTC infoHub</u> ICC NEWS - October/November 2022. 06 November 2022 11:24:43

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CHRISTIAN CONSULATE

SUPPORTING PERSECUTED CHRISTIAN REFUGEES



Over the past couple of years, the government was providing and funding accommodation in apartments for many asylum seekers in Greece. Camps still existed, but there was



an effort to help integrate people into normal Greek society. Unfortunately, last month the government started closing all state-funded accommodation programmes. People who were living in apartments were and are being evicted, with two options: sleep in the street or go back to government controlled refugee camps.

This is a devastating move, with long-lasting consequences for many: children who have just got settled into Greek schools are being pulled back out of school. People who began to find work and integrate into Greek life suddenly find they have been sent back to square one. The camps are far from the towns and cities, making integration and progress much harder. We are also very concerned that there will be a resurgence of Christian persecution as both Muslims and Christians find themselves living side by side in closed environments.

ICC is not state-funded so our accommodation programme thankfully remains operational, but we are already starting to hear stories of trouble for believers in camps again. We are bracing ourselves for another surge in persecution cases needing safe housing. Please pray that the Lord would once again protect His people in the midst of hostile persecutors and bring those in need of safe housing to our door, and that we will have the resources to help them.

Safe Housing has become much more challenging, as food and utility prices increase. No financial support is available for asylum seekers outside of camps... so we are having to provide much more than when we first set up the safe house

programme.

Urgent need

We also now have a problem in one of our apartments (safe house) with a damaged water pipe - talk about bad timing! It's a complicated situation (with external sewage pipes involved too), part of which has been ongoing for several years and is not our responsibility, but the building managers refuse to cooperate. It's not one with a cheap or quick fix. Please pray for this specifically - we need to be able to raise funds (current estimate is 5000 euros, pending final quotes) to do all the repair work. The apartment cannot be used until it's fixed and could house two families in an emergency.

We are currently working on possible solutions, and getting quotes for the work, but it is not a small job. Please pray!

Families in Afghanistan -"Please don't stop praying"

Please don't stop praying for our Afghan families trapped inside Afghanistan. The constant threat of the Taliban and the extreme poverty is all taking its toll.



Please pray especially for one of our translators and her family. They are so faithful... yet so suffering. The walls have ears, and the Taliban are offering rewards for people who hand over Christians. Please pray for their protection and also for their state of mind. It is exhausting enduring persecution for so long, and it often feels that there is no way of escape.

We are so proud of them, and continue to provide counsel and support on an almost daily basis. But it's not easy.

The Apostle Paul wrote that we are all members of one body, and when one part suffers the whole body suffers. Or at least that's how it should be.

These scattered ones perhaps feel as insignificant as a little toenail... but when you stub your little toe, it can hurt so much that the whole body recoils in pain! Please don't stop praying for them - for hope, peace, strength and ever-increasing faith.

Please also keep us in your prayers as we stand alongside them and try to minister to them.



Remote Discipleship and Zoom Classes

We continue to hold Zoom classes three times a week, and these are very well attended. New people have been joining and now we have a little flock scattered across six times zones. What a

privilege it is to be able to disciple and equip these Middle Eastern believers in countries ranging from Morocco to Germany, Afghanistan and Pakistan, as well as Greece of course.

They are so hungry for the Word of God and to grow in their faith. They want meat, not milk. They want to be challenged and matured, despite most of them being in extreme situations of poverty, persecution and suffering.

We've been looking at how God can protect his people and at examples of people who endured great trouble and suffering but remained firm in their faith. The walk of a disciple is not easy - it is a lonely and difficult path, but as this precious flock is learning, the high price is worth it!

In addition to discipleship classes, we recently started an in-depth series on the book of Revelation, which is very popular. The world may be falling apart around us, but we have a King who is in control. Nothing is out of His control, and He has warned us in advance. Together we are finding great strength and comfort in looking to what is ahead... as well as making sure we are ready for His arrival. We may all be refugees or wanderers in this life, but we have a great hope - the Kingdom of God is coming, and that is where our citizenship lies.

We constantly admire the faith of these believers, who are living in very difficult circumstances. Many could identify with the church of Smyrna and are encouraged by the words of Jesus to stand firm despite being surrounded by enemies who would gladly kill them for their faith.

Please continue to pray for their strength and peace as they endure to the end.

I almost gave up and lost my way, but then God brought me to you, and now I am stronger. I don't feel so alone now. And I'm learning so much from these classes. Thank God for your existence.

I'm so grateful I can be with other brothers and sisters. We are all far apart but we are all together. Thank you for being there for us and joining us together.



Make a Donation

ΤΗΑΝΚ ΥΟυ

We are so grateful for each and every one of you. Your continued prayers and support are extremely valued (and needed!). We are so blessed to have such faithful supporters who really care about the least of Jesus' brethren. Thank you for being there.

Please keep us in your prayers and pray especially for God's continued protection, provision, strength and wisdom!



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