



PRAXIS ADVOCATES

The above logo is, in Arabic, "Jesus is the Light of the World."

IN THE LOOP, HECKMAN NEWS, PRAYER, IDEAS: Share Freely

Dental Work and God's Work

A new eye opener for me as I flew to Izmir, Turkey for ridiculously cheap dental work by a master aesthetic, Christian, American dentist. The flight was only \$250 round trip, food on all legs of the flight, and a cheap AirBnB for \$15 per night. The lodging wasn't the Hilton, with 3rd floor, no elevator, and only a camping gas to fry my eggs on.



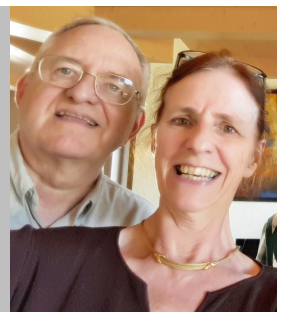
You have brothers and sisters that don't even speak your language and whose Muslim background was rejected for wanting the Risen Christ Jesus.

But I wanted to go to church on Sunday, so I planned to find the church building Saturday in this Islamic country. Sunday came, and I was early, arriving at 1:30pm for the 2pm afternoon service. At 3:00pm, I realized something was wrong. But wait, this was the beginning of a miracle. Since the church were all on their yearly camp retreat, as per the word of a born again American leader of hundreds of Turks coming to Christ, I fell upon her suggestion.

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Love and thanks for your care and prayer from Don and Evey Heckman to you. Please write to us about support, partnership as individuals or as churches with this ministry.

Don and Evey, Yours



There was another tiny church nearby, but at 3:30pm, it was hopeless to find it open after the morning service. I told the Lord, I am going to try to find this second church FOR YOU, and for me, since this may be God's will. When I arrived, they were locking up a large chain with a padlock, closing the church. I screamed, "Don't close the church!" to the 6 believers locking up. They complied, since I wanted to talk with them. On with the lights, the air conditioning, cold water and stories that these believers were all from Iran, or Persia which they prefer to call it. It was an Iranian church. All 50 were former Muslims.



The three couples were indeed Iranian, and mystified by my questions, like, How did you come to Christ? When did you arrive from Iran? Are you full-on believers? And did you have to ask Jesus to remove evil Spirits from you when you came to Christ? (Remember that this is a communal society, not a private world like we have in the West, before you judge my questioning!) There was a lot of translation without all present being good English speakers.

Here's the story: Turkey expelled all Greeks from Izmir, and the vacuum was filled by young people presently in their late 30s and late 40s from Iran, from where they fled due to persecution. One of the pastors of this very church languishes in an Izmir prison for sharing his faith with a Muslim. Izmir is full of hoards of Persians/Iranians. The problem is that people in the streets, other Iranians, bombard these people with begging questions on how they can too become Christians. Iranian churches are springing up everywhere, a real people movement transfixed on the Living Christ, and they want into God's kingdom.

So the next service was to start at 6pm. I gladly waited for that. In the mean time, I led the 6 in a Bible study that I plan to preach in a church in Geneva on August 5th. They kept saying, This is amazing, This is God's word and it is beyond our experience, Amazing.

Well, true to expectation, each of the 6 had asked Jesus to remove an evil spirit from them. They said, All of us, from our Muslim past, ask Jesus to take away the evil spirits from us as we come to Christ. I was aghast. No secrets among Eastern community peoples. Many suffer greatly as Christians, but they plow through hard times. I told them that in the West, we are generally told that coming to Christ will promote comfort and ease, no hard struggle with "powers". They were shocked.

Their strategy is to build church planting disciples. They take and mentor 100 wannabe Christians, one mentor per disciple, and each day, for 100 days, live the life of Christ with them individually, the first day being taught how to pray, all day long.

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"Jamaat" is Arabic for Disciple Making Communities

A visiting pastor emeritus, who has formed Bible Societies in Iran and other hard countries, came and preached at 6pm. He warned us not to become the temple of Satan like the church mentioned in Revelation. No kidding, he gave 5 altar calls. The first altar call, after an abundance of worship, was for those willing to take the place of a pastor locked up in the Izmir prison, or to become so bold that they end up in prison. A third of the church went forward, trembling. The next altar call was for those who would be mentors for 100 days to seeker-Christians, to live life with them, day in and day out. Well, 20% of the remainder of the group of 50 went forward in tears, kneeling and praying. The next altar call, with all previous people standing still by the altar, was for those willing to plant a church wherever they went. Another 5th went forward, crying to Jesus for the heart to be faithful. Not to leave anyone out, the next call was for those willing to pray non stop for those who came forward. It was rightly emotional, but very controlled, everyone kneeling, tears flowing, every heart bursting to follow Jesus onto a new level.

Imagine that Iranians on the streets are asking other Iranians how to become Christians just all over Izmir.

And I got to experience and encourage this in my little way, being aware of the creative hand of God touching and calling and transforming these Iranians. My translator had a tablet with Farsi and English on two columns. Heaven sometimes happens on earth. I saw this power and transforming authority in Nagaland, India. Thank you Jesus for an insider look into the Book of Acts, fleshed out.



For you missions nuts like me, these Iranians do not reach out to Turks, since the flood harvest is upon them right there. I wouldn't touch a part of this holy work. It is happening all over Izmir. I saw the Lord.

It takes 2 minutes!

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You'll be directed to a payment page that is very fast and you're done! By check: Frontiers, P.O. Box 60730, Phoenix, AZ 85082; include a separate note saying, "for the Heckmans, ID #004763".

Swiss and GB partners via Stewardship have also been supporting us, knowing how to send gifts.

"Jamaat" is Arabic for Disciple Making Communities

Spain Consultation coming up in two weeks

Just like my seminars I will be holding in the USA in August through and into October this year, Don will be attending a retreat seminar in Spain for our workers in Morocco, Tunisia and elsewhere in North Africa. These are some sharp sticks that are coming, sharing new and proven ways to bring Muslims to faith in Christ. Our top leaders and counselors from England and from the USA will share breakthrough ideas and also ask for prayer for setbacks that have defeated our work in some places. But "Devil do your worst, Christ is our victor and Savior of all peoples on the earth." There is also a computer repair clinic that can fix up laptops that are all dusted up by the Sahara Desert. Pray for that June 24th flight and the strength of God on all our workers, healing, strength and rekindling the fire of Jesus the Lord in all our lives.

In September and part of October, Don will speak and hold seminars in 6 churches, mostly in the midwest. He will continue to serve as an *inspirer, mentor, motivator, and maximizer* for God's glory among all nations...as well as *teach* and *equip* at strategic locations. Some meetings will be preaching and Bible study, others will include a 2 or 3 day long seminar to rouse the people of God to seize their crown of gifting and to move out to community or worldwide.



Back at the ranch, our 8 grand kids are learning to read books or be read to. Zoe of Simeon and Eileen is a voracious reader. Ayo of Esther and Andrew asked for a reward for reading a bunch of books: Mom, can I have a real store-bought haircut? Lydia of Stephen and Kelly crawls by butting her head onto the carpet, making her a perfect snow removal baby next winter. We chuckled, all.

The Springs of Water of Salvation are Coming