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Miracles are happening in places you would never dream . . .

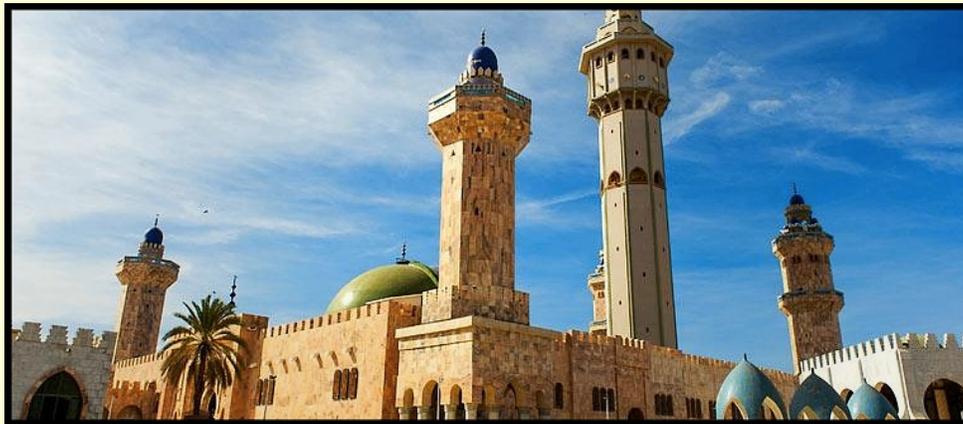


InPraxis International

Redefining Mission, Empowering People

December 2016

Expanded Christmas Edition



Overview

During this Christmas season we want to take time to praise God for what He has done. Further, we want to thank each one of you for your prayers, support and partnership.

Today we support ministries across 28 countries. Our network has about about 50,000 groups and house churches. We have nearly 300 workers. These workers focus on training the thousand of house church leaders.

The funds that make this possible come from your donations and from the new followers of Christ in the missions we support. Already their tithes and offerings cover approximately one third of their expenses.

Opportunities

We have incredible opportunities and need your partnership. Many existing groups

are requesting training and to become a part of our network. To accommodate these requests will require 300 more workers.

We believe that if we had these additional workers we could double the size of our house church movement within the next 3 to 5 years.

(The average cost per worker is only \$150 per month.)

Opportunities - Established Groups

The groups that are requesting to come under our umbrella are from varied backgrounds and are spread across the 10/40 window.

Some from evangelical or protestant background are requesting further biblical training. The leaders who started these groups have returned to their homelands, leaving believers without affiliation.



Several of these groups are quite large ranging from several hundred believers to several thousand house churches.



Opportunities - Sabbath Groups

Possibly the most exciting however are several Muslim Sabbath-keeping groups that we have found. These are also spread across the 10/40 window.

We have discovered that those that have ancient Sabbath traditions much more readily accept Jesus as their Savior.

One of these groups has over 15,000,000 people!!! Many of the leaders in this movement are very interested in our message. Already over 400 groups from this vast territory have joined the nPraxis movement.

We desperately need more workers as only one person is working with them presently. We believe that over time a large portion of this group will embrace our full message.

Opportunities - Bibles

One major impetus among some of the most closed peoples is the power of the Bible. Our workers desperately need many more to help those hungering for truth.

For example, in one country alone we have distributed 52,000 Bibles over the last few years of which 37,000 are used as the base of home study groups every week.

We need to purchase another 100,000 Bibles.

Thanks to matching funds available, a donation of \$3.00 will not only cover the cost of a Bible but also the expenses for it to be placed in the home of a seeker for truth.



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Dreams

The second major impetus that we have seen is the incredible outpouring of dreams and miracles that God is using. Many have seen the Man in White that they recognize as Jesus. Following are a couple of stories that we believe you will enjoy.

An Intriguing Dream

One of our leaders was traveling in a remote area. When he stopped at a lunch counter in a village for a quick meal, an old man with a strange smile approached him. Our leader tells the story:

"Though we had never met, he was looking at me as though he knew me. He asked if we could talk.

"I motioned for him to sit down. As he took a seat, he blurted out that he had something very important to tell me. He shared how just a few days before as he finished his evening prayers he laid down to sleep. Soon he had a vivid dream in which he saw me and was told to keep a look out for me. Just moments before our meeting, he had been impressed to come out of his house and saw me drive up.

"He told me that he knew I must have a special message for him and I must tell him then without waiting. Despite my other commitments, he insisted that I spend the next several days opening the scriptures to him.

"He is very excited and at the same time is struggling to take it all in. He is on a path toward accepting Jesus. Please keep this dear old man in your prayers."

The King is Coming

Another national leader relates how early one morning a neighbor came running

excitedly to his house.

"She banged urgently on the door calling for us to let her in quickly. Sitting on the edge of a chair, she excitedly told how during the night she had an incredible dream in which she saw a Man in White descend from heaven and enter our house.

"She saw him standing over my bed where I was sleeping. Then he started speaking to me. She was anxious to understand what the man was telling me, but she was too far away in her dream to hear clearly. After he finished communicating with me, the Man in White disappeared as mysteriously as he had come.

"Then she saw that I rose from my bed resolute with decision and as on a holy mission. I started to share what I had seen and as I did I left my room and house with a vast throng forming around me as I explained the vision. I was telling them that the Man in White had instructed me to warn the community about the soon coming of the King of Kings.

"Now the woman, who was still perched on the edge of the chair, insisted that I immediately tell her what this meant and what other information I had to share with her and our people.

"We have now been studying for about two months. She is like a sponge soaking up truth. I love to watch her as my wife and I share the beauty of the gospel with her. It is as though she is coming to life all over again as she is giving her life to the King of Kings.

"May her dream come true that a vast throng of my people will be prepared for the coming of our great King of Kings," closes the leader in his report.

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Feature Article

By Marty Phillips

I would like to invite you to join me on a journey behind the smokescreen of the media into the Middle East and the Muslim world. We find that God is in control amidst the apparent upheaval. In fact, we see a discipleship movement emerging and spreading to every corner of the Muslim world. Let's follow God's footprints as He is on a mission to build His kingdom.

I'm sure questions will arise; some may not be easy to answer. However, I believe that we will be blessed by the experiences and lessons learned by these new believers. Could it be that there is something for us to learn from them as well?

What has brought about this change? It is actually a convergence of factors, which I will try to share in a series of feature articles in our

newsletters and updates. In this first article I would like to share what I believe lies at the core of this movement.

The Sharia of Jesus - The Third Way - Part One - Perfect Love Drives out Fear



One of the most compelling elements that attracts Muslims to Christ is His teaching. Those who choose to follow Him call it the "the sharia of Jesus." As they look with fresh eyes at the New Testament, they are awed by the power of the constitution of Jesus as found in the Sermon on the Mount. What usually stands out is how He shows His disciples how to confront evil, how to deal with opposition, injustice, and corrupt leaders, as well as racial divides, etc. They are finding a third way to transcend both passivity and violence. It is at once assertive and yet nonviolent, tending to protect their rights and those of others.

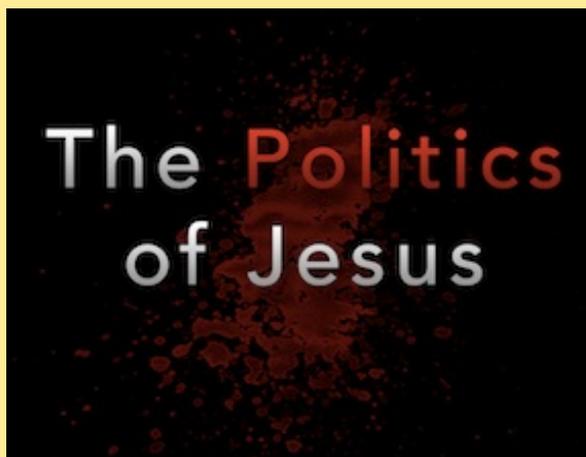
Study shows that the early discipleship movement was advanced by a total transformation of the believers. As they learned to forgive their enemies and pray for them, a radical new way emerged to resist evil and injustice with a non-fight, non-flight approach.

The following story is a modern example of this.

No Fear of the Secret Police

There was a severe security breach in one of the ministries nPraxis partners with. One of the most powerful individuals in the country, heading a radical group, apparently was able to plant a mole inside the ministry, leaking important information.

This individual published numerous articles in one of the national newspapers over an 18-month period revealing progressively a great deal about the ministry. The articles revealed who the leaders were, where they lived, their ministry strategy, their Bible distribution network, and even the inner mechanics of the ministry. At the end of each article he would challenge the nation to "rise up to exterminate the vermin who are defiling our nation."



Persecution already was rampant and owning a Bible was totally forbidden. The believers united in fasting and prayer for God's protection. They studied the scriptures as to how to deal with such situations. They become convicted of at least two things. First, they should not operate from a basis of fear, as the Bible teaches "perfect love drives out fear." However, the Bible also teaches to



be "wise as serpents and meek as doves." While they would not operate from a perspective of fear, they would take security measures, as the environment they were living in was hostile. They decided to divide many of their house churches into small family units to be unperceived.

Secondly, they were convicted that they should not go on a "witch-hunt" to find the mole. The leaders would challenge the believers to live a life of true Godliness.

The ministry leader was soon summoned to the national headquarters of the secret police. Everyone, even government officials who are called there went in fear and trembling knowing that they would likely never return. The office was known to be brutal in tactics and was infamous for holding people without a trial. Their extreme measures to force conformity, extract confession and eliminate opposition were well known.

This created an enormous concern about how the leader should confront this dire threat to his life and people. Should he disappear into the interior? The secret police did not take lightly non-appearances to a summons. In fact, they were well known for their manhunts and for holding a close family member until the hunted person would turn himself in.

Another alternative would be to obey the summons, appearing in a very subservient way, begging for mercy and pleading for his life to be spared. Due to previous employment and position, he had powerful friends both in the government and in the international community. He could request their assistance to plead his case in an attempt to protect him. A final alternative would be to call on his people to raise an army to protect him.

He felt impressed to go back to the scriptures and again ask the believers to fast and pray for his protection and theirs. The very future of the movement was at stake. The right DNA needed to be manifested.

As he studied the scripture and prayed, he was once again struck by the idea there is no fear for the believer. He was further convicted that, as a disciple of Christ and as the representative of his people, there could be no running, and there would be no use of power for the Bible says, "not by might nor by power but by My Spirit says the Lord of Hosts." During this dark hour of his soul, he resolved - "If I die, I die."

Perhaps God had called him to witness to authorities at this time. He decided that he would go with shoulders held high as on a mission to take the kingdom of God into the very center of terror of the nation.

In fact, he decided to go a day early to the national headquarters dressed in his best clothes.

Upon arrival he apologized for needing to come early, as he needed to travel the next day for an appointment in another city. This totally threw the officials off guard as most people go there in an utter sense of terror.

In an attempt to intimate him, they led him down numerous corridors where he witnessed horrific torture being conducted.



At the end of a corridor he was ushered into an office. Without waiting for instructions he sat down, making himself comfortable, and asked if they might have any tea to offer him. The startled attendant ordered tea and the two men engaged in small talk.

Once the tea arrived our ministry leader proceeded to ask them how he could be of service to them and assured them that he would be happy to answer any questions they might have. This was hardly the customary way for interrogations to start.

He went on to quickly explain that it was indeed true that he was a follower of Jesus. Further, if they would permit, he would consider it an honor to share his testimony with them.



They were so taken aback by his bravery that the lead interrogator said, "We already know all about your life. We have been watching you for years." After a moment of silence he said, "We just need a little favor. A few of your groups here in the capital city have been singing rather loudly, and some of the neighbors have complained, making an issue about it. If you could ask them to sing a bit quieter, it will be fine. You are now free to go."

Our man shook their hands thanking them for their time and for looking out for him and the movement. He handed them his card, thanking them in advance for keeping him updated if any other problems might occur.

There was great rejoicing that day in his home as well as across the country. A great lesson had been learned. When a disciple of Christ understands his true identity and confronts evil with perfect peace, God can work miracles.

Soon, however, another article was published. It was harsher than any of the previous ones. Further it revealed the extent of their work and was the most vehement against the believers.

It contained the most powerful challenge to the nation to immediately crush the movement or it would be forever too late as it was gaining great momentum.

It concluded by calling on the head of state to use every resource at his disposal, including the dreaded secret police, to track them down and exterminate them. If he would not act immediately he would be seen as a coward and unfit to rule a Muslim nation like theirs.

The leader of this nation, known to be a hardliner and not at all averse to blood baths, suddenly did the unexpected. Even before the believers had time to organize to pray, he closed down the newspaper that had published the articles. He warned all the media outlets that it was against national principles



to publish inflammatory articles. He further stated that this was unconstitutional and the law would punish whoever would dare to do such a thing in the future.

He went on to issue a news release saying-"We are all citizens of this country regardless of what holy books we read." The same security police that called in the ministry leader later informed him that they had warned the author never to speak or publish such inciting articles on pain of imprisonment. Since then, we have seen the mighty hand of God protecting the work.

What happened? What changed the outcome?

How do you feel about a non-fight, non-flight approach as a disciple of Christ?

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