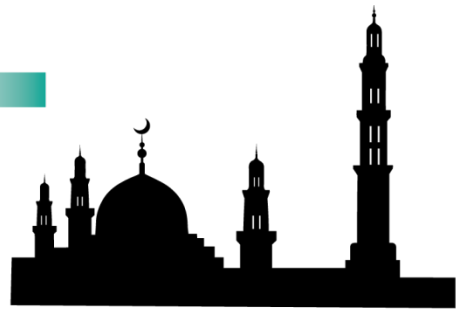


# PROJECT

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August 14, 2015

Thank you for taking time out of your day to read about an exciting opportunity and adventure Teresa and I have undertaken. It's a desire in our hearts to push past our studies at Charis Bible College and launch out into the field of foreign missions within the 10/40 Window.

An amazing door has been opened for Teresa and me. It's a door that few would choose to step through once the destination is seen on the other side. We have a passion to reach out to, teach and disciple Muslim people that are in bondage to the powerful Islamic religion that often rules and controls by intimidation, fear and coercion. It's a calling that will take us -- once preparations are complete -- to restricted countries within the Middle East, where wisdom and security dictate that access to the knowledge of our location will be limited to a select few.

Without extensive knowledge of the language and culture of a specific people group, we would be highly ineffective in practically any matter undertaken within that society.

**Therefore, beginning in August of 2016, Teresa and I have chosen to immerse ourselves within one**

**of the more stable Middle Eastern Arab countries to enroll in Arabic language school. This is a two-year program which focuses on Modern Standard Arabic and the regional spoken dialect.** As we learn to speak and read the Arabic language and immerse ourselves in the Muslim culture, there will be many opportunities to minister to both the spiritual and physical needs of existing Muslim background believers (see fact sheet)



and also the large number of Syrian war refugees within the region of our school. According to the UN Refugee Agency, there are an estimated 811,000 war refugees settled in camps scattered throughout the region. These families, seeking safety and protection from ongoing violence, fled Syria at the start of the civil war in the spring of 2011.

This is a calling to a people group that many missionaries are most likely called to, but due to the current world situation very few will answer yes to. This is a special calling that requires a different approach to mission work. It's conducting a mission strategy unlike the many other missions operating in non-restricted countries around the world. It's a strategy that requires careful planning that often only bears fruit within secret locations of restricted Muslim countries. The Bible says that **Christ died for the entire world and not just for a select portion of believers located within the safe, civilized countries of the western hemisphere. The Gospel must go to the unreached.** It must be taken "to the ends of the earth" as Jesus told us to in the first chapter of Acts.

Teresa and I both believe that this calling is firmly within God's plan of the Great Commission, to go unto the entire world and make disciples of all nations. If we as a Christian nation were to exclude those societies around the world we deem "unfit" to be children of God, then ultimately, society would not change. The truth is that in order to alter the existing destructive practices of a people, the **heart of an individual** must first be altered before the **heart of a society** ever will be. **We believe in this**, and hope also comes in asking our friends and family to **believe in us** as we choose to be the "sent ones" to carry out God's Great Commission in this part of the world.

In presenting this to you, Teresa and I will need partners in this call, both financial and encouraging prayer partners, that will agree with what Paul said in his letter to the Romans in chapter 10, verses 14 and 15: "And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach **unless they are sent?** As it is written: How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" Please take some time and prayerfully consider if God has placed a desire within your heart to be a regular supporter of our ministry.

Within the next few weeks, we will be sending out a following letter giving you information about options on how to partner with us on this exciting adventure. Teresa and I are now established with a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation in order to offer you tax-deductible receipts for your gifts to our ministry. This is an exciting time for us as God is doing amazing things around the world. God bless you and your family as you consider supporting us in God's plan for us in carrying out the Great Commission.

Sincerely,

Patrick and Teresa Houghteling

# FACTS & thoughts



## The 10/40 Window

is the rectangular area of North Africa, the Middle East and Asia approximately between 10° north and 40° north latitude.

This area includes the majority of the world's Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists, and constitutes the majority of the unreached people groups of the world.

## A Muslim Background Believer

is an existing Christian within the Muslim society. Most often these Christ followers choose to remain unknown inside the Islamic culture due to fear of expulsion from their families, homes, jobs, and even due to the threat of death should they be exposed.

## LESS THAN 1%

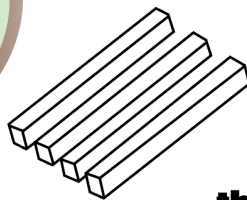
of the Muslim population living within their borders are at risk for becoming radicals [RAND Research Corporation]. The key qualifier is "at risk of becoming radical." That doesn't mean that they will pick up a gun or start plotting an attack.

Radicalization and violent extremism are two different things. Violent extremist behavior only comes about if a radicalized individual falls in with a circle of people who are open to using violence.

If we harbor an attitude that causes us to hate and/or fear Muslims, or even if the Muslims of the world hate and/or fear us, then we will have erected a barrier which would stop the

**Great Commission-** the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the very knowledge that has the power to transform lives.

Changing an existing thought pattern will prove to be difficult given the mass amount of media that floods our senses every day with the horrible atrocities that occur, but we must at least **attempt to see the world from a different perspective.**



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