

# project 142



May 5, 2017

Dear Old Macdonald,

Over breakfast this morning, Teresa and I were chatting about short- and long-term goals -- or "targets," if you will -- and as it always does when someone mentions "target," a quasi-military analogy appears in my head. It's just how I tend to see things. Right here and now, it's as if our commander told us "Aim for that barn!" My initial reaction: *The **barn** is my target? Are you kidding me? Why is our target -- our goal -- so broad and unspecific? Don't we need a mission, plans, specifics, time frames, or some form of a detailed attack plan?*

The truth is, the barn, for now, is our target. It is our goal. This ginormous, broad-side-of-the-barn



target is preparation time for us, and in spite of my immediate reaction above, **it's proving to be a formidable target to hit.** Short-cuts or

micro-waving something never produces a quality product -- this applies to relationships as well as learning a new language in order to spread the gospel. We choose not to rush for a more specific target when the task we've been given is challenging enough. *In time, we will hit the **Arabic language proficiency target**, and a more precise target will then be given. A slow hit is **always better** than a fast miss!*

This ambitious plan is set in a remarkable time and our ability to continue forward has only been enabled by your generous financial support. Our monthly living expenses, tuition fees, books, ministry and travel costs continue to be met, but we are looking forward to and expecting a more specific and strategic goal in the future. Thank you for your continuing partnership and donations so that we may keep this pace even after we complete our language training.

Leaving here June 8th, we will be traveling back to the U.S. for a much-needed break to visit family and friends. Starting out in Georgia, stopping in North Carolina, Iowa, and ultimately ending up in Colorado for the 4th of July, we pray that time and location, if possible, will allow us a visit before our departure back overseas on July 17th.

We are thankful for and love you all.

All our best,

*Pat + Teresa*

