



## News from Allen and Deedee 18 Aug 2024



We got to welcome our Athletes in Action colleagues and join them for a devotional when they arrived for their Olympic outreach

Greetings, dear friends and family! We pray that you have been enjoying your summer.

We arrived back in France just before the Olympics (see photos) and we hit the ground running with all of our ongoing responsibilities. I (Allen) worked on completing our ministry's fiscal year-end reports, while Deedee planned safety & security sessions for a briefing conference, helping get a large group of new people ready to serve in various countries throughout our region. Deedee is at that conference right now! *Please pray that everyone stays healthy; that these new teams are encouraged and well-prepared with all they need to know; and that the Lord blesses them and all their work here greatly this year.*

Shortly after Deedee gets home, I head over to Serbia to provide an internal financial audit for their national ministry. *This will be my first solo audit trip: Please pray that everything goes well!*

Meanwhile, we continue to provide operational support for our team's ministry strategies and special outreach projects. Several of these strategies have their busiest outreach time in the summer:

With **Operation Transit**, some of our Middle Eastern colleagues come lead evangelism teams at European port cities every summer, while other international church groups or local believers form distribution teams. Together they offer North African travelers New Testaments and other Christian materials, and talk with them about Jesus. For the evangelism team leaders, this is also a wonderful opportunity for them to bring along some of the students they have been working with all year, to train them and help them gain practical experience in sharing their faith. One evangelism team that came this summer included "3 generations of believers:" meaning that one person had led another to know Jesus; and that person had in turn led another; and then all three joined to come share Christ's love and grace with North African travelers here in Europe.

Meanwhile our **Gulf Partnership Outreach** teammates are leading similar ministries to bring the gospel to Middle Eastern visitors in many different European cities. In one location this summer, Vienna, a team of 10 evangelists from 6 different countries partnered with some local churches for outreach. This team gave away 358 New Testaments and 998 USBs (with digital versions of the Bible, Jesus film, and other materials), in just 9 days! They also had 259 Spiritual conversations, 110 of which included a full explanation of the gospel; and they saw 3 people pray with them, right then, to accept Jesus as their Savior and Lord. One man they met said "I fled my country to escape religion and to have fun (for the summer)...and here you are talking about religion!" He laughed, but he also took a USB. A woman said she had already gotten a New Testament and other materials from the team last year. She had read the New Testament and liked it. Hearing that she lived in Vienna, my colleague encouraged her to attend a local church, and introduced her to one of the local pastors who was helping with the outreach.

*Please pray for all the people who have received God's Word, that they would read it for themselves. Pray especially for new believers to connect with local churches for encouraging fellowship and follow-up, and that they (and all of us) would walk daily more closely with Jesus.*

We appreciate your sincere prayers for us as we help bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to people who otherwise might not have the opportunity to hear it. Thank you for helping make all of these answered prayers possible, and thank you for walking with us in ministry!

Serving with you, *Allen and Deedee*