

Feb. 24, 2010

Dear Praying Friends,

During this one month break from the HyperBaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT), Ellie is undergoing THERASUIT Therapy here in Mobile. We believe the Lord provided this opportunity because both Ellie's physical therapist in Athens and her HBOT doctor highly recommended that she get this kind of therapy while here, if possible. We had exactly the amount of money needed in our savings account, and the center had an opening during this 3-week slot (2 hours a day, 5 days a week). You can read more about this therapy and the center where it is offered at:

<http://www.pptmobile.com/Therasuit.htm>

Ellie and I will return to New Orleans on March 14th for the second round of HBOT. Meanwhile, we are enjoying our time with Vicki (who will return to Athens on March 5th) and my parents. Additionally, I am getting a few speaking opportunities, which I always enjoy.

IF YOU WANT TO SEE RECENT PHOTOS OF ELLIE AND HER THERASUIT THERAPY, GO TO:

<http://elliebomccracken.blogspot.com>

FROM ATHENS...here are some excerpts from from team updates in Athens...

I was in the kitchen for the first part of the day but in the afternoon I went to sit with the women for a bit. Let me tell you a little about a woman named "C". When we first came she and her husband "A K" had a little boy and she was pregnant with their second child. "A K" was a Christian but "C" was not.

She came to Persian Fellowship but she sat with her head covered was VERY quiet and solemn. She does not speak any English but once in a while I would sit with her and she would always take my hand and hold it.

Eventually "C" became a Christian and was baptized. She removed the head covering but was still quiet and reserved. One day some women began to harass her for not wearing a head covering. They said she was unclean. She responded that Jesus had made her clean and that she did not need to cover her head any more.

Gradually "C" began to blossom. She began to bring her little boy and baby girl and sit in the baby room and visit with the other women. She began to witness about her faith and share openly with the other women.

On Monday I was sitting with her and a group of women and I was telling a story which "S" was translating for me. "C" got tickled and began to laugh and tell her own story. As I looked at this beautiful woman with her smiling face and warm personality I was struck by the transformation that has happened over the last year

and a half. This is what it is all about!

Our newly revised Vision Statement read - "LIVES TRANSFORMED- to see gospel SEEDS planted across Greece, take ROOT in the lives of refugees, and bear the FRUIT of life transformation." That is what is happening here in Greece and YOU are a part of that. Thank you will all our hearts for allowing God to use you to support this ministry.

Ikir has been meeting weekly with "A", a new believer from Iran, mentoring and teaching him to share his faith with others. Together they got to know several young Iranians who recently fled the unrest in Tehran. These students, curious and eager to learn about Christ, spent a long evening with Ikir and "A" discussing the Truth over dinner. Ikir shared Jesus' words, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." One of the men declared that he felt his questions had been answered and that he was ready to believe—that he had found the Way. Another was captivated by the loving God described to him... a God who would die in our place because of His love for us.

Ikir and "A" constantly meet new people, and on another night "A" brought three men that had only just arrived in Athens. Ikir took the opportunity to share the love of Christ with them. "A" was translating at first, but then began telling the guys what God had done in his own life. Ikir could see in their eyes that they were very eager to learn about the Bible, to consider why we need a savior, and to ask questions about Jesus. One of them asked very good questions about life after death, and God gave Ikir another occasion to share deeply about eternal life and why Jesus died on the cross. He was also excited to watch "A" grow and begin to share with his fellow Iranians out of his own experience.

God is on the move, stirring people's hearts. Please pray that the Holy Spirit would work in the hearts of these young men and that they will find the Truth.

Vicki and I are so very grateful to you for your prayers and financial support! THANK YOU!

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<http://vimeo.com/1207537> (ministry video)

<http://elliebomccracken.blogspot.com>

<http://refminathens.blogspot.com> (refugee stories)