

CROSSOVER GLOBAL
COMMUNIQUÉ



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Crossover Global Affiliations



Crossover Global passionately seeks to glorify God by providing gospel access through the planting of multiplying churches among the unreached peoples of the world.

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Let's
Multiply
Our
Kingdom
Impact
Together!

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Dinner Invitation Leads to the Gospel



The picture to the left is of a young Muslim man who had given his life to Christ and was getting ready to be baptized in a swimming pool by two Crossover Global missionaries. The picture is one of my most favorite baptism photos because the two Crossover Global teammates and the new follower of Christ were all wearing swimming caps. The baptism ceremony had taken place in a spa that required everyone entering the water to wear bathing caps. Every time I look at that picture I laugh, probably because I have known the two Crossover Global missionaries for as long as I have.

Now, after a trip to Central Asia, I know the third man in the photograph as well. I had the opportunity to travel to Azerbaijan to help our growing staff train current and future church planters not only from Azerbaijan, but also from Iran, Turkmenistan and Turkey. The young man who was in the baptism picture attended the training. I spent several days with him.

Having grown up in the country of Iran, he has a love for his countrymen and wants them to know the love and forgiveness of God through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. He asked to be trained for the purpose of returning to his Iranian homeland and starting churches by leading people to the Lord.

At the end of the training, he invited me and a few other staff members to eat dinner in his home. He also invited his Muslim sister, a dentist, because she had recently begun seeking a relationship with God in response to the dramatic change she had seen in his life. Like the vast majority of people living in Azerbaijan, she would be what I call a cultural Muslim. Meaning that, though she did not faithfully practice her Islamic faith, she would call herself a Muslim; very much like many people in America might call themselves Christians, but rarely go to church or even believe in God.

After dinner, the sister shared that she was searching for a relationship with God and had been meeting with one of Crossover Global's female workers for three months. I told her that if she were interested, I could show her a verse in the Bible that would show her where she was in her spiritual journey as well as what steps she would need to take to get right with God. Very politely and sincerely she asked me to show her the verse.

Not knowing Farsi, the Iranian language, I asked the Crossover Global missionary who had been translating for us to write the words to John 3:16 on a piece of paper. I then explained the four truths found in that amazing verse: God's purpose for man (relationship), man's problem before God (disobedience), God's remedy for man (Jesus) and man's response to God (faith). She had many questions, but the Spirit of God was

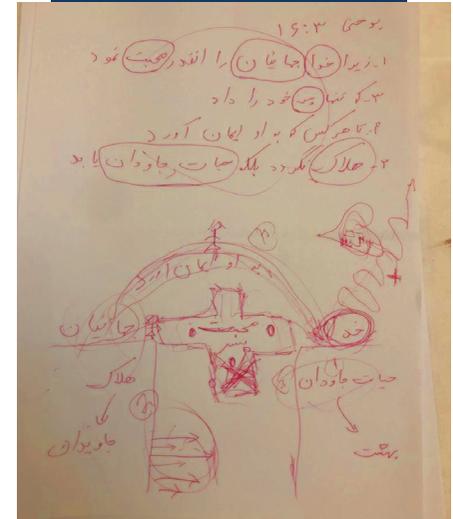
obviously drawing her as her tears (and mine) began to flow. After a long conversation she asked if she could receive Christ right then. We knelt and her brother began praying powerfully for her. The sister then asked God to forgive her and give her the gift of eternal life. The Crossover Global missionary then closed that sacred moment in a final prayer. When we opened our eyes, we beheld a very different lady, one changed for eternity. I doubt the story is over. As we prayed, someone else in the room was watching, the mother of the brother and sister.

Who would have thought that a dinner invitation would turn into a gospel invitation?

You just never know what God is going to do next.

This story was provided by Bill Jones the Co-Founder and President of Crossover Global.

Some names and locations have been omitted for security reasons.



God Moving in the Face of Persecution

It may be surprising but Christian persecution is one of the biggest human rights issues of our time. India, a country in South Asia, has the second largest population in the world with 1.35 billion people, out of which 60 million are Christians which is only 4.4 percent of the total population. Hinduism is the largest religion in India.*

Since 2014, attacks on Christians have increased, and Hindu radicals believe they can attack Christ followers with no consequences. As a result, believers have been targeted by Hindu nationalist extremists more and more each year. The view of the nationalists is that to be Indian is to be Hindu, so any other faith is considered non-Indian. Additionally, in some regions of the country, converts to Christianity from Hinduism experience extreme persecution, discrimination and violence. Driven by a desire to cleanse their country from



*From joshuaproject.net



Islam and Christianity, these nationalists do not shy away from using extensive violence to achieve their goals.

New believers are constantly under pressure by the state, their community and their families to return to Hinduism (especially via campaigns known as Ghar Wapsi which means “homecoming”). These Christians are often physically assaulted and sometimes killed.



Pastor Daksh Sikh is a church planter with Crossover Global in India. He leads a church in his town. Some radical Hindu nationalists from his neighborhood intentionally play Hindu religious songs and Hindi movies at a high volume to disturb the church gathering. One morning Pastor Daksh was having a time of prayer in his church along with 75 believers and this radical Hindu group played their music louder than ever before. Pastor Daksh went to tell them that he was having a prayer meeting and the loud music was disturbing the group gathered. He kindly asked them to turn the music volume down, however those in the fanatic

group was waiting for this opportunity. When Pastor Daksh reached out to them to talk, the Hindu fanatic group started to yell at Pastor Daksh and beat and cut him with a knife. By God’s grace and protection some of the believers came and helped him.

On that same day Pastor Daksh went to the police station to file a complaint about the issue. The complaint was taken seriously because he was supported by the village believers and they were able to continue the church service in the same place with the knowledge of the local authority. We ask the Lord to provide boldness to Pastor Daksh and his community of believers as they continue to plant multiplying churches among the unreached people in Northern India.

This is just one incident of a village in India. While instances like this are heart-breaking we know that God is still on the move. When Jesus said in Matthew 16:18, “...I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” he knew that though people would try to prevent His church from being established, He would prevail. We partner with Jesus as He builds His church in India and around the globe.

This story was provided by Vihaan Burman who serves as the Crossover Global Strategic Coordinator for the Ganges Initiative.

Some names and locations have been omitted for security reasons.

Faithful Service Among Turks



While working as a chemical engineer in Mexico, Antonio Medina began praying for unreached people groups and soon after, God called him to serve in Turkey with his family.

When the Medinas first arrived in Turkey there were only 400 believers in the entire country. For the first five years they served in a church in Istanbul to learn the Turkish language and culture. Those first years were extremely difficult. The Medina's had left their home, country, language, and family. Everything that was familiar to them was in Mexico. As they transitioned to their new life in Turkey they felt like infants having to learn to do the most basic tasks. A simple trip to the market, something most adults do with ease, required them to engage in an entirely new ways. They had to learn a new language and a new set of cultural norms. They were able to walk through this transition because they knew the Lord had called them to Turkey. They were on a bigger mission than just exploring a new culture, they were on mission for God to provide gospel access to the unreached Turks living in Turkey.

After five years in Istanbul, the Lord sent the Medinas to Antioch, currently called Hatay. The same place where the Lord sent Barnabas and Paul in Acts. After two and a half years of working in Antioch they planted a house church. It was important to them to train a leader who would be able to lead the church so they began working with a Turkish man. Once this new leader was established, the Medinas planted their second church in Turkey in a new city, Adana.

There are 1.7 million people in Adana and only four churches in the entire city. Antonio and his family have planted the biggest church in the city with 60 people in attendance. This church has deployed former Muslims as national church planters to cities where there are no churches. The church has started four new second generation churches and frequently takes evangelistic teams to new cities throughout the region.

Here are two examples of their church planting efforts:

We have been visiting a small city where we have been visiting a family. This family is the only believing family we know of in this city with a population of approximately 130,000. This family has expressed a desire to open their house for Bible studies.

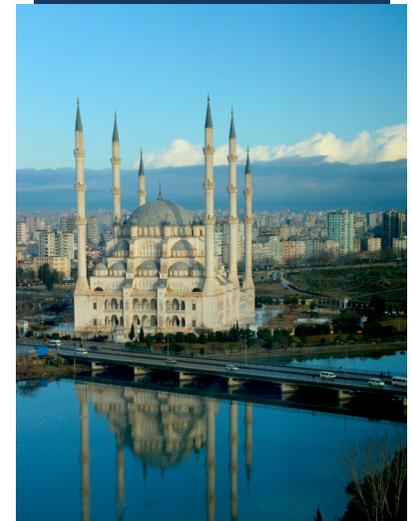
In a city East of Adana, we met a believer named Kadir. Kadir murdered more than 30 people, including his own father, got incarcerated, and became a Christian in jail. In jail, he had been beaten and tortured for reading the Bible. At one point he was given permission to visit his family for a week. Members of our church visited Kadir and he introduced the group to the rest of his family. We shared the gospel with them.

Progress of the gospel among unreached Turks does not come easily. Some people from their church have been beaten. Some have been threatened that they would be cut into pieces. In the beginning these threats were very scary for the Medinas, but now it seems normal to them. Things in Turkey are uncertain. The government has been removing several foreign workers from the country. Today, when a worker leaves the country they no longer know if the government will let them back into the country upon return. As of the publication of this magazine, the Medinas know of 20 cases where workers have been deported or banned.

Even in this uncertainty, Antonio and his family believe it is a time of great opportunities in Turkey. And in Antonio's words, "we still have a lot to do in this country."

This is the testimony of Antonio Medina a Crossover Global church planter in Turkey.

Some names and locations have been omitted for security reasons.



An aerial, high-angle photograph of a massive, dense crowd of people, likely at a large event or festival. The people are packed closely together, and their heads and shoulders are visible, creating a textured, multi-colored pattern of human forms. The lighting is somewhat dim, suggesting an evening or indoor setting with artificial lights.

 CROSSOVER GLOBAL

SPIRITUAL NEEDS ARE EVERYWHERE

ACCESS
TO THE
GOSPEL
IS NOT

JOIN US IN PROVIDING GOSPEL ACCESS TO
UNREACHED PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD

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