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Art & Arlene Guina

SERVING WITH THE JESUS FILM PROJECT

DEAR MINISTRY PARTNERS,

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT the more I listen to the news these days, the more discouraged I tend to feel about the future in light of the current state of affairs in America and the world. What a contrast as I read one of the latest stories below which I hope will likewise make your day today:

Ali was a devout Middle Eastern man. He was feeling depressed and overwhelmed by life. He thought if he could just complete the great pilgrimage to his religion's most sacred site, joining hundreds of thousands of others, his "dark night of the soul" would end. So he took the pilgrimage. But when it was over he was still feeling overwhelmed, and even more depressed.



On the bus ride back to the hotel, Ali happened to take a seat behind the driver. With nothing to lose, he started talking to the driver about his failed quest, his depression and desperation. The driver listened intently as he steered the bus along. Then he turned his head back to Ali and said: "May I suggest something else?" Ali agreed. "When you get off the bus, go and sit by yourself. This time, pray to Jesus. Share your problems with Him and see what happens."

At his stop he did exactly as the driver suggested. He got off the bus, found a place to sit, and prayed to Jesus. Ali said that the very moment he spoke the name "Jesus," joy flooded his soul. Ali continued to pray and got up to find the driver. But by now the bus had left. Ali made his way home, still joyful. Now he embarked on a second quest... to understand what had happened to him. But where he lived there were no Christians to ask, no pastors to speak with, no Christian book stores and no churches. However, he knew of a neighbor who at least had a Christian name. To the neighbor he explained, "Something has happened to me. I wasn't raised Christian. I need to know more about Jesus. Can you help me?" The neighbor replied, "I don't know how to help you, but someone did give me a DVD about Jesus. Would you like to watch it?" That evening—together—they inserted the JESUS DVD and sat down to watch. The scene in which the Lord presents Himself to John the Baptist for baptism soon appeared. First you see the back of His head as He moves toward John, then Jesus' feet stepping through

the water. At last the camera clearly reveals the face of Jesus.

At that precise moment Ali shot to his feet and shouted, "That is the bus driver! He is the driver of the bus! He's the one who told me!"*

When the film concluded, Ali prayed again. He became a follower of Jesus. Now transformed, even in the midst of the hostility that surrounds him, Ali tells everyone he knows about the good news, how Jesus turned his night into day. He also urges others to watch that same DVD, **JESUS!**

It is not too hard for me to allow earthly and human circumstances cloud my vision and hope for the future so stories such as this powerfully reminds me that Jesus remains actively at work and at the end of the day, God will accomplish His great plan for His creation!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEADFAST PARTNERSHIP WITH US in helping people like Ali get liberated out of darkness and into the light! How we appreciate your sacrificial giving and/or faithful prayers... so together, we can do our small part.

Thanks also for praying for our JESUS film teams in Haiti who were unaccounted for in the first several days after the massive earthquake there last month. All five teams have been located and are safe except for one team member who is still missing. They have been helping to give out aid and show JESUS in and around aid distribution centers 3-4 times every night and seeing 45-70 people professing to receive Christ. They report how the response has been phenomenal and how crucial it is to integrate both physical and spiritual components in helping the victims. An urgent need for which you can pray is that \$300,000 would be given by Feb. 26 in order to take advantage of a matching gift for the same amount. This funding can be used to promote the film teams' capacity to reach more people. Please call us if you feel led to help.

We would also love receiving an email from you if there's anything you would like us to pray with you about.

Until the Whole World Hears,

Art and Arlene