TREE OF LIFE MINISTRY TURKEY UPDATES

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2026

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TÜRKMENISTAN TEENS CAMP



21TH MARMARA,KIDS CAMP



14TH MARMARA, TEENS CAMP



6TH BLACKSEA, KIDS CAMP

A SUMMER OF FAITH

WINNING THE NEW GENERATION FOR CHRIST

To God be all the glory! Because of your deep commitment and faithful support, children and teens had the opportunity to hear the Gospel, experience God's love, and make memories that we pray will stay with them for years to come.

LEARNING TO OBEY AND LOVE JESUS

This summer, the stories of Daniel and Jonah became meaningful themes throughout our Bible camps. Through these familiar Bible stories, we encouraged children and teenagers to discover what it means to obey God, trust Him, and love Jesus—even when following Him is difficult.

Throughout the camps, these stories were not simply Bible lessons. We connected them to everyday life—obeying parents and leaders, loving others, forgiving, choosing what is right, trusting God, and being willing to follow Jesus wherever He leads.

Our prayer was that the children and teenagers would not only remember Daniel and Jonah, but would understand the greater message behind their stories: God is faithful, Jesus loves us, and we are called to trust Him and obey His Word.

Please continue to pray that the seeds planted during these camps will take deep root in every camper's heart, growing into a lasting faith that reaches their families, churches, communities, and beyond.

FAITH IN ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST RESTRICTIVE NATIONS

Through your generous support, The Tree of Life was able to partner in the teens camp held in Turkmenistan. This was a significant step of faith and a beautiful reminder that God is at work even in places where sharing the Gospel is extremely difficult.



Turkmenistan is a predominantly Muslim nation (roughly 89% to 94%), with Russian Orthodox & Armenian Apostolic for about 4% to 9% of the population, and Making up less than 1% (and evangelicals less than 0.1%),

Christians in Turkmenistan face severe restrictions, state surveillance, and persecution, making it one of the most difficult places in the world to practice the faith.
(OpenDoors International)

We remember the early days of sending boxes of Sunday school materials to encourage children and equip teachers. Those simple resources opened doors for relationships, ministry, and the Gospel.

Today, we see a beautiful answer to those prayers through a local teen and children camps in Turkmenistan. In a country where openly sharing the Gospel can be challenging, God opened a door for teenagers to gather, build friendships, study His Word, and hear the Good News.
The camp was also a great encouragement to local believers, reminding them that God is working even in difficult places. Through your prayers and generous support, we were blessed to be part of this ministry.

We pray that the seeds planted will take root and grow in the lives of these young people and the believers who faithfully serve them.
What seemed like a difficult door for us was never too difficult for God.
To Him be all the glory!

COMMUNITY CARE FOR MARDIN STUDENTS







HATAY COMMUNITY CENTER

As the summer camps concluded, God opened new opportunities for our team and volunteers to address the needs of vulnerable students.

Our trip spanned approximately 2,500 kilometers, taking us from Istanbul to Hatay and then onwards to Mardin. The journey aimed to strengthen local communities, uplift families and believers, and explore future ministry opportunities.

During our travels, we visited a community in Mardin where God enabled us to meet students and their parents. We offered encouragement through fellowship and distributed school supplies to some of the students.

We also have met with several church leaders to discuss the possibility of organizing a Bible camp in the Mediterranean region. This conversationns marked an important step toward creating a gathering where believers can grow in faith, build relationships, and receive spiritual encouragements.

A NEW DOOR

Following the event, local believer Nermin began connecting with women encountered during distribution. She plans to visit them to build deeper relationships.

The aim is to understand their needs, listen to their stories, build trust, and share the Gospel when appropriate. Many women reached have fled war in Syria, experienced domestic violence, or faced difficult circumstances, and the goal is to support them further and lead them to Christ.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PRAYER UPDATES


Potential Venue Bible Summer camp -Mediterranean Sea

- **GUIDANCE** Pray for Nermin and the volunteers to build healthy, trusting relationships with the women they visit, and ask God to guide their conversations with the right words.

- **PROVISION** Pray for provision, opportunities, and unity among leaders, families, and believers to foster a space for people to know Jesus and grow in faith for a potential Bible camp in the Mediterranean Sea region.

- **THANKSGIVING** Pray for meaningful moments spent together, reinforcing our relationships. We ask that God renew our vision and deepen our commitment to serving families, believers, and our local communities.

- **CHRISTMAS EVANGELISM**
Pray for unity among our team, volunteers, and parents as we prepare our programs, share the Gospel, and welcome families. May God guide every conversation, open hearts to receive His Word, and offer encouragement to those in search of hope, peace, and truth.

- **FOR OUR TEAM**
Let us pray for rest and encouragement for the families of Rut and Mostafa. They have faced a series of illnesses for several months. Additionally, let's ask for renewed physical strength and motivation as we prepare for the upcoming events.

The work of God is indeed a blessing beyond expression, and your commitment and partnership clearly demonstrate that His presence is active! We are thankful to serve alongside you and are trusting God for all that He will continue to accomplish through our partnership.

''God is confident to bring change in you, meaning "He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:6: God

For His glory alone,
Antuan G.

Rut: A Story of Commitment and Dependence on God



Six months before the Bible summer camps, Rut, one of our dedicated staff members, began preparing all the necessary materials. Just a week before the event, she was still busy packing and finalizing details when an unfortunate accident occurred. She fell and fractured her arm, requiring a visit to the hospital. After receiving the appropriate treatment, she returned home with her arm carefully bandaged.

For many, an accident like this would be a completely valid reason to take a step back—to rest, stay home, and say, "I can't do this right now." Indeed, there are times when our bodies need rest and care.

However, Rut's injury did not deter her from serving.



Despite her arm still being bandaged, she made her way to the camp and continued to contribute to the work. She took an active role in managing the camp, remaining committed to the duties that God had entrusted to her. Although her physical condition presented challenges, she refused to let those obstacles serve as an excuse to quit.

"I will not permit my circumstances to hinder me from doing what God has called me to do. I refuse to let the enemy prevent me from serving God this summer," she asserted firmly when we suggested that she could take a break instead of attending the camp.

'My strength comes from the Lord, not from within myself,' she added.

Ruth's unwavering commitment to serving God this summer has been a source of inspiration, reminding us that while following Him does not guarantee a life free from discouragements, it does assure us that His strength is enough when our own falters.

Please pray for complete recovery for Rut.

"My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness."* — 2 Corinthians 12:9

Discovering Jesus for the First Time: A Family from Afghanistan

From Mercy Recepient to Campers: Through Mercy Ministry in Yalova, we had the honor of meeting Zeynep, an Afghan mother, along with her two children, Hasan, aged 7, and Fatma, aged 12. They escaped the Taliban regime and arrived in Turkey seeking safety, yet they still live with the anxiety of being watched by the Taliban. Despite this fear, they courageously welcomed us into their home and embraced us with warmth and hospitality.



Afghan Mom,Zeynep, Fatma,12yo and Hasan,7yo

In their community, they wear Hijabs daily, but at camp, they have the freedom to remove them temporarily.

Not Easy: Starting anew and securing a decent job for her husband has been a tiring journey. As a refugee, finding sufficient income to meet the family's needs is challenging.

Warning: Within their small Afghan community, the Taliban closely monitors all activities. At one point, the family received a warning that Fatima must cover her hair in public and that an arranged marriage was being planned for her. This initiative caused significant distress for Fatima from that moment onward.

DOOR OPENED With so many hardships surrounding them, we were deeply encouraged when the family accepted our invitation to the children's camp.

They knew the camp was centered on Bible teaching, yet they still chose to come.

On the first day, the two children were shy and a little surprised as they watched the other children singing, praying, and praising God together.

Each day, children engaged with Bible verses through music and had the chance to recite them aloud. On the second day, Fatma joyfully recited a verse independently, reflecting the Lord's work within her heart.

The camp also served as a sanctuary of rest and encouragement for Zeynep. She found solace among other mothers who listened to her, showed compassion, and shared God's love. At the conclusion of the camp, she entrusted us with a prayer request for herself and her family. It brought us great joy to stand with them in prayer.

Please continue to pray for this family, asking for protection and courage against the influence of negative spirits surrounding them. Additionally, pray for new opportunities and a job for the husband.