



APRIL 2018

“I will pour forth of My Spirit on all mankind;. . . And your young men shall see visions,
And your old men shall dream dreams;. . .” – **Acts 2:17**

Dear Friends,

God continues to work in amazing ways throughout the Middle East, especially in the lives of believers from a Muslim background (BMB's). While in Dubai last month at the GKPN conference, I was blessed to pray for and with lawyers and church leaders in the U.A.E. During the last 10-15 years, the church there has been relatively free to meet, particularly in hotels. Unfortunately, just last month, many of the pastors were told that they would no longer be free to meet, but will be limited to meeting only in two small compounds. With over 500,000 Christians in that tiny nation, such a restriction could pose great challenges. Please pray with us for the churches in the U.A.E. and Middle East, and for the lawyers who may now face the new task of helping to keep the legal doors open.

In Europe, the churches continue to face great challenges and receive blessings related to the influx of refugees. While at the GKPN, this story was shared: In Sweden, one young Muslim man I'll call Abdul, lives in Hudiksvall, a city about a 3-hour train ride north of Stockholm. He had multiple dreams about a large auditorium, full of people with their hands raised. He asked strangers where that might be and one man suggested he try Stockholm.

On a Saturday afternoon, when Abdul arrived in Stockholm and stepped off the train, a man came up to him and simply said “You've come one station too far, go back one stop.” He immediately got back on the train and returned—to Uppsala. When he got off the train in Uppsala, he asked about the auditorium in his dreams. He was directed to the Word of Life Church. As Abdul walked in the door of the church, the Saturday evening worship service was in full swing and the pastor said “If God has called you here tonight, please come forward.” He walked directly to the altar and gave his life to Jesus. This young BMB later told the pastor that this was the auditorium in his dreams.

Global Partners

This annual Religious Liberty Partnership Consultation will be held this month in Washington, DC. Advocates has been a part of the RLP since its inception and I continue to serve on the Leadership Team as the Secretary. With access to Capitol Hill, this year's meetings will provide the opportunity to further encourage religious freedom with national leaders from the Congress, and the Executive branch. We expect to hear from the new Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, Sam Brownback, as well as a number of Senators and Representatives who are champions for religious liberty. Please pray with us for safe travels for all of our RLP colleagues from around the globe.

Partners in Europe

Just last month, I was blessed to join two dozen colleagues, including eight lawyers, at the 15th European Religious Liberty Forum. The ERLF is a partnership between Advocates Europe and the European Evangelical Alliance that was started by Latcho Popov. We discussed the current state of religious freedom on the continent and prayed for one another. Please join with us in continuing to lift up the work of these front-lines advocates. They are beginning to see great improvements in the awareness and importance of religious liberty after many years of neglect.

Another key partnership is with our friends from *Christ und Jurist* (Germany) and *LCF* (UK), who are co-hosting the 50 Nations/ 1 Fellowship conference in Berlin, October 4-6, 2018. On my journey home from the ERLF, I met in Frankfurt with part of the conference planning team. We are excited to see what God will do amongst the lawyers across Europe and ask that you pray with us for delegates from every single nation in Europe. The Global Council will also be holding its annual meeting in Berlin.

Partners in Asia

In August, AI is partnering with Handong International Law School (HILS) and ADF as we convene a third law student conference in Bangkok, Thailand. The first conference in 2016 was held in Kathmandu and last year the students convened in Bangkok. Please pray for the logistics of the conference planning, and for those who need to be there with us. Please also pray for HILS Dean, Eric Enlow, who is recovering from a recent heart attack.

Please also continue to pray for our colleagues in Nepal as they work toward the removal of the new anti-conversion law set to take effect in August. They also ask for prayers for a Pastor who was accused of forcefully converting two young people in his village. The police are investigating the incident even though the new believers testified that they converted of their own free will.

Finally, we are pleased to announce that we once again received a Four-Star rating from Charity Navigator, indicating our excellence in transparency and fiscal responsibility. Thanks for your continued prayer support and your financial support.

May the Lord bless and keep you in His perfect . . .

Grace and Peace,



Brent M. McBurney
President & CEO

