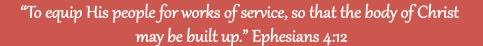


March 2014 Newsletter Arab Woman Today . . .



"Things need to change now...

... I will not permit this mistake to be repeated in my daughter's life"

These were the words of a lady who attended our Violence Workshop. AWT has started 2014 with a new series entitled "Violence & Gender Equity". Two sessions took place during the first three months of this year in which fourteen ladies attended each session. Lectures were aimed at raising awareness, embracing positive attitudes and acting decisively.



The first session prompted ladies to reflect on their upbringing in early childhood. We discussed basic healthy foundations required during this phase of life and the potential impact they render whether positive or negative. Discussing the concept of gender roles and equity between genders ignited a heated but healthy discussion, provoking the ladies to think creatively.

The second session commenced the discussion on violence. Ladies were given a holistic picture of the concept, to include: its types, what it looks like within the family and the community, and how it is impacted by local laws. Interaction took place and ladies started opening their hearts one after the other.

"I should dig into the roots. It's not the surface issue that needs to be resolved."

"I no longer force my example on others, especially my daughter-in-law."

"I am not the center anymore..."

Our ministry shall remain focused on Him, shall move by Him and shall aim for His glory

The ACCTS-AWT staff cherishes the opportunity to be developed spiritually, personally and professionally through the mentorship of Rev. Charlie Costa, pastor of Ras Beirut Baptist Church in Beirut, Lebanon. Our team started the journey of devotions and training with the first topic focusing on our relationship with God.

As communicated through Daniel 7:14, this passage from the Word of God urged us to:

- have better communication with God in order to help others do the same.
- extend our boundaries to the whole church of Christ, as workers in the Lord's vineyard.
- make God our priority in order to experience His glory and blessings.



Our New Hope Center

In January of this year, our new Hope Center was launched. Two new members joined AWT's team and were trained to be representatives of Hope for the Heart (a radio ministry in Texas that publishes biblical counseling materials) in our churches in Jordan. Two introductory meetings were held for the purpose of sharing the ministry outreach vision. In the first meeting, the ministry was presented and plans were discussed regarding the most suitable topics and methods of communicating these topics in our region. Two volunteer ladies, who have already started using the material, joined the meeting and gave their feedback and suggestions. In the second meeting, pastors and counselors were presented with HFTH materials. As a result, they made the following recommendations:

- (1) Biblical counseling materials should be used as "first aid" for hurting people.
- (2) Those administering these tools should be trained on how to use them.

"You gave me hope... I will start to release forgiveness"

Our first social-emotional workshop of the year, targeting Syrian refugee women, took place on March 1st at the Jordanian Assembly of God Church of Irbid, Jordan. Seventy-five ladies attended our workshop entitled "The Grief Circle & How to Deal with Our Emotions." Group discussions permeated the three-part session, creating a positive atmosphere where ladies felt welcomed and treated with dignity. We were able to feel their pain and comfort their souls.



"I came here with a burdened heart but now I feel I have peace, as if someone has taken the burden off my shoulders!"

Praise Report:

- We praise God for allowing a smooth transition within the ministry while Pastor Nabeeh and Ruba Abbassi have begun their furlough in the US.
- We praise the Lord for preparing the hearts of women who were thirsty to hear His word during our Social-Emotional workshop.
- We praise you Lord for the continuous stability in our beloved country Jordan.

Please remember the following needs in your prayer time:

- For the strength of our few staff members as they meet increasing demands.
- For successful planning of the Hashimi Area Project so that it might change the lives of vulnerable women and touch the lives of men as well.
- Pray for wisdom to handle the crucial situations of abused women who attend our workshops and discipleship program.

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