



## News from the Burrills October 2020

While we will soon write again to give more updates on the ministry and our family life, we wanted to send out an update early this month concerning two specific things: the current state of our church building project and the ministry in Turkey.

As you will see in the video, much progress has been made in the building project over the last three years, but we have needed to pause before pushing ahead on the next stages. Please pray with us about the completion of this project as you also pray for God's work in the lives of people on the Maltese islands.

The fulfillment of Jesus's great commission continues in the land of Turkey despite many challenges.

Antuan has provided an update below on the last quarter of ministry.

Read, rejoice, and pray for the gospel advance that is happening!

Our plans for an October teaching week had to be postponed again due to the pandemic, and we are now planning for March.

It is discouraging to need to put this on hold for a second time, but these plans are in the Lord's hands and we trust His goodness. Thank you again for your interest and involvement in this ministry.

In Christ,  
Josh, Erica, Rowan, Kian, Selah, and Naya Burrill



Greetings! We trust our Abba Father that you are well and your family during these difficult days. May you experience His full protection and love always. "But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you. Surely, LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield (Psalm 5:11-12)

The crisis in recent months has truly changed a lot in our thinking, actions and our view on lives. Not just in Turkey, but over the world. And because a significance percentage of the population appeared to be experiencing fear and loss of hope, they are more open to the gospel.

This is Batu, our new contact from online. He is one of our 231 new Seekers who contacted us during last quarter. He is 21 years old, from divorced parents. Since the pandemic begun, he started thinking deeply which caused him to question life and God. During this time that he remembered some good Christian people he was with growing up. He searched a local Church online.



Batu found one of our church plant websites, and social media through Facebook and Instagram. His first message was "I am not really a religious person, but I don't know who to turn to other than God." After exchanging messages, we agreed to meet. He had many questions. What a great privilege to listen to his heart, acknowledging of his longings and needs of a Savior. We ended in prayers.



Currently, we have an open communication with Batu. Just recently, he brought his mother to visit our Church and met us. It was a joy sharing They asked for a time getting to know them and us.

Pray with us for Batu, his mother, and our old/new contacts from online. We have a good number and there is a great need of work to follow up. Pray for more right evangelistic materials that would meet their current spiritual needs.

There are many stories like him, thus we are finding an effective way to meet the needs of the seekers online. With this in mind, pray with us for the right person as we are working on our new website Hristiyanlar.com (Christians.com) to provide Christian resources and evangelism online.

**CHURCH ONLINE:** "Let us never stop doing good, for in time we will reap it if we do not give up." Galatians 6: 9

**Our God is able!**

The Church and its ministry have been affected greatly by this pandemic. We are facing a great challenge on how to navigate the works onward. During these uncertain times, humanly speaking, with our capacities and strength, its impossible to accomplish things. We thank the Lord for making things possible for us here. It is He and his faithful hands who accomplished many things in front of us.

231 New contacts/Seekers

**EVANGELISM & DISCIPLESIP ONLINE**

256 images shared for social media

27 made personal meetings with new contacts

4,900 people engaged on social posts

281 New Followers on Social Media

26 Copies of Bibles requested & sent

17 Sunday message videos

5 Kid's Club videos Children Ministry

God knew what was in our hearts when the pandemic started. We prayed for His hope and love to be known. Although we had many losses, God made ways and replaced them with new ways to move forward.

Thank you for praying and supporting us so that we can bring the message of Hope of Jesus effectively in this country. With God's love and guidance, we can make a difference together in this country.

**ONLINE EVANGELISM: Kid's Club**



Last quarter, we asked you to pray for this project. Thank you for journeying with us. Last July, Kid's club has been introduced on YouTube to provide Christian materials for our Turkish children who have missed our summer camps and their weekly Sunday classes. We pray as well that this platform will lead more children and their parents to Jesus Christ.

In addition, we praise the Lord for the 75 students who had received a set of educational gifts during the launching of our YouTube channel. We have at least 67 Muslim parents subscribers, please pray that they will come to the knowledge and experience Jesus personally.

**CHURCH PLANTERS VISITATIONS**

5 Days, 900 kilometers, 3 different locations/Churches/Pastors. We thank the Lord for our safety throughout the trips and for graciously allowing us to visit our brothers and sisters in **Canakkale, Ayvalik** and **Balikesir**, some of the provinces in the Northeastern Aegean Sea.



"How can we encourage and help Pastors and workers in their ministry effectively?" As a pastor personally, more than the need of digital tools to meet the needs of works, we as workers are in need of more ways to be spiritually connected with God and emotionally connected to our collaborators and families. Social distancing does not necessary mean to disconnect to anyone more so during these days. Oh, how I pray for the fulfillment of our fellowships in our congregations once again.

Philemon 6-7 has been a great encouragement to me on why taking time to visit Churches and my brothers and sisters are necessary for our community. It truly refreshes our souls and pleases God as he sees us together encouraging once another.

With this visit, God graciously provided us a way to experience and taste that He is at work. He is able!

- Prayed and encouraged a Pastor and his family as they are being deported by the government.
- Made long term strategies and plans to maintain the Church and the works.
- Build relationships with the congregations
- Build relationships with new Pastors and the possibilities to work together for our future Bible summer teenage and kids' camps
- Visited a site that is possible for our future Bible summer camps
- Visited and encouraged a Pastor and family who are experiencing emotional burnout.

**Philemon 6-7** I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people.

**TURKISH BIBLE SOCIETY: 200 YEARS CELEBRATIONS**

What a great joy to be a part of the Turkish Bible Society on their 200 years of existence in this country-all by His grace. As part of its anniversary, they desire for the Book of Psalm to be read into 150 different languages. Citadel is thrilled to read it in Pilipino and Antuan in Turkish.



Truly a delight to recognize God's hands, orchestrated all the details to make the Bible available in our own language, and available for every Turkish who desires to own one. Our heart's prayers that truly through TBS more Turkish will come to know the Truth in Jesus Christ.



All the glory to Him alone. Happy anniversary Turkish Bible Society!

**FAMILY**

Our David is now officially enrolled in Grade 3. They are still restricted to visit school facilities during these days and it is being replaced by having a zoom class. It has been a challenge I believe not just for our son, but for most students. Kindly pray for his adjustment as he does his responsibilities as a student.

**Lastly**, we want to leave these words of encouragement that we have been keeping in our hearts these days: **Romans 8:39** neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

May you and your family experience His love today and always. It is always a great joy to be partnered in serving God with you.

All for Him,

Pr. Antuan Gurun  
IN-Turkey