



VENTURE INTERNATIONAL

a Christian Relief and Development Agency serving in the Middle East

2011 Year in Review

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January, 2012

A Year of Time

In my readings, I came across some great insight from Steven Cloud on the subject of time.



As we look into 2012, we look at a block of time. We see 12 months, 52 weeks, 365 days, 8,760 hours, 525,600 minutes, 31,536,000 seconds. And all is a gift from God. We have done nothing to deserve it, earn it, or purchase it. Like the air we breathe, time comes to us as a part of life.

The gift of time is not ours alone. It is given equally to every person. Rich and poor, educated and ignorant, strong and weak...each man, woman and child has the same twenty-four hours every day.

Another important thing about time is that you cannot stop it. There is no way to slow it down, turn it off, or adjust it. Time marches on. And you cannot bring back time. Once it is gone, it is gone. Yesterday is lost forever, if yesterday is lost, tomorrow is uncertain.

We may look ahead at a full year's block of time, but we really have no guarantee that we will experience any of it. Obviously, time is one of our most precious possessions. We can waste it, we can worry over it. We can spend it on ourselves. Or, as good stewards, we can invest it in the kingdom of God. The New Year is full of time. As the seconds tick away, will you be tossing time out the window, or will you make every minute count?

This edition of our newsletter is a summary of all that we were able to accomplish in 2011. The work of Venture International is made possible through the generous financial gifts of our faithful donors. As Venture International continues to reach out to the "poorest of the poor" throughout the Middle East, won't you consider a monthly gift of \$25.00...\$50.00...\$100.00+. Every dollar counts, every minute in prayer counts for eternity.

Thanks for being part of the *Venture Team* that is having an eternal impact in the lives of so many.

Have a blessed New Year,

Jeff Meyer

President, Venture International

2011 Highlights

From the President

Family to Family

Project Reports

VI Staff & Board

Our Mission

Email Address Change Request

We want to ensure that our email communications reach our supporters.

If you have not been receiving our emails or have changed your email address in the past few years please help us update our records.

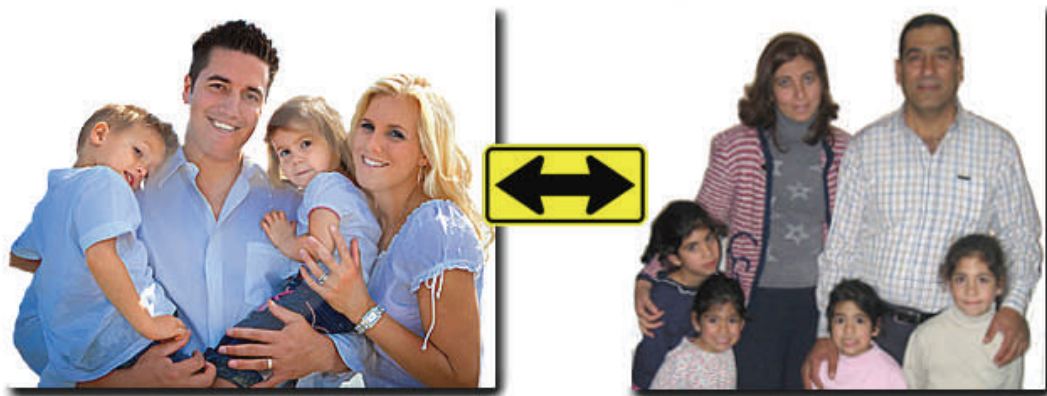
Please send your name and current email address to:

info@ventureint.org

family to family

families helping families

Family to Family is a unique sponsorship program that connects families in North America and Europe with families in impoverished areas of the Middle East. Rather than simply sponsoring a child, a holistic approach is taken with focus on the *entire family*. It is within the context of the family that the children benefit the most, by enriching the lives of their entire family – mentally, physically, and spiritually. Venture International's *Family to Family* sponsorship program truly promotes giving families the "hand up" they most desperately need.



Venture International currently operates *Family to Family* programs in Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, and Jerusalem. While the program in each country has its own special focus, *Family to Family* sponsorships always address humanitarian needs such as food, health care, shelter, and clothing. In some cases we are able to assist in skills training or the creation of a micro-enterprise. As always, the *Family to Family* staff seeks to share Christ's love through actions and truth. Here's a brief recap of what we were able to do in 2011:

Egypt: *Family to Family* partnered with churches for job training in carpentry, computers, cooking, and hair styling. In addition to assistance with day to day needs, *Family to Family* helped offset the cost of books, materials and uniforms for school-age children.

Lebanon: *Family to Family* has helped provide for basic needs and educational expenses as well as support for the children of Cedar Home Orphanage.

Jordan: *Family to Family* provided support in order to meet the needs of underprivileged Christian families in and around Amman, Jerash, Madaba and Fuheis.

Jerusalem: *Family to Family* assisted desperately poor families with food, visits, and medicine serving areas such as the Old City of Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

Thanks to our *Family to Family* sponsors, 89 families have been sponsored; but there are many more desperate families awaiting sponsorships from loving and caring families.

life changing projects

seeing

feeling

serving

The Jordan Preschool - Venture International supports The Jabal Al Nadief Preschool to provide a stimulating, alternative learning environment that serves approximately 20 families (about 25 children) from the poorest areas of Amman. Through faithful contributions, we are now able to send monthly financial support.



The Damascus School - With Venture International's help, this afternoon school program is serving about 130 Iraqi refugee children in a safe, professional and loving environment. In this complex environment a very sensitive and bold witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ occurs daily, including daily worship and chapel services that encourage worship and prayer. Thanks to our faithful supporters, we have been able to send \$20,000 in support for this fantastic, life changing project.

Iraqi Refugee Relief - It is estimated that between a quarter and half a million Iraqi Christians are in fear of returning home to Iraq, or no longer have a home to return to. They are stranded in countries where they have no legal right to work and can not provide for their families. Thanks to generous contributions, Venture International secured a 40 foot container with life-sustaining food, clothing and medical supplies for over 3,000 Iraqi and Syrian refugees in Jordan.



Wheels of Life: Syria/Lebanon - In partnership with PET international, a producer of low cost wheelchairs and our workers in Lebanon and Syria, we have been working to provide approximately 140 special Personal Energy Transportation wheelchairs to those who most desperately need them. Due to the current political climate in Syria, we are awaiting the go-ahead from our Syrian ministry partners, but are praying that we are able to resume this project as soon as possible.

Mission of Mercy: Libya/Egypt Refugee Relief - Venture International provided much needed support to our ministry partners in the border town of Marsa Matruh by raising \$10,000 to provide blankets, food and shelter for the people crossing the border to flee the fighting in Libya.



Holy Land Trip - Venture International co-sponsored a trip to the Holy Land where 42 people shared in a life-changing experience as they visited the "living stones" throughout Israel/Palestine.

Venture's Staff



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Mission Statement

Venture International is a Christian relief and development organization, that serves as a bridge between those in need and those who want to help God's people in the Middle East and Central Asia; empowering and enhancing their work through:

- Strategic Partnerships
- Small Business Creation
- Emergency Relief
- People Development

To sponsor a family please
call 1-800-421-2159 or consider
donating to the program through our
website: www.ventureint.org.

E-newsletter
Sign up:
www.ventureint.org/eletter



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