

# SUAREZ UPDATE

|| "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who is crucified. He is risen! He is not here." || Mark 16 v 6 ||

## *Avisai*

Avisai will finish his studies on the 22nd April. He continues with multiple regular zoom meetings connecting with people here, Senegal, Mexico and Spain. He also continues to do some carpentry/woodwork jobs for friends and family, which also has helped a little with our finances.

He has been able to return to IMP one day a week for the last month, which he is really enjoying; distributing food, bedding, clothes & chatting to people and praying with them. He also does practical work like fixing bicycles and so on.

Over 420 different families from 26 different countries have been helped. The biggest group is from Eritrea and comprises of over 25% of all who come in. There has also been a significant increase in people from Syria, Palestine, and Yemen.



## Ministry Update

We attended the first Online Neighbours Worldwide Conference in February 2021. It was a 3 day event and as a Team we have grown during lockdown, now almost 50 people in 15 cities/towns across the UK. It was a very special time to not only do 'business' side of things but also connect with and encourage one another.

## *AL MASSIRA*

We have completed our 13 weeks journey through Al Massira. Here are a couple of quotes from those who did the course with us. (John Finlay, Gary McClatchey, Joy Irwin and Anna-Louise Shepherd).

"We were reminded of the privilege of being taught truth from an early age in our own journey to accepting Christ as our personal saviour. As I became more familiar with what others believe and the challenges of coming to faith from a different community, the course has given me confidence to look for opportunities to share my faith and pray for people God cares for who need to know His truth. The added bonus was discussing biblical truth and being encouraged by what became an effective small group as friendships developed over a screen in lockdown."

"Al Massaira was challenging and thought-provoking, and provided a great opportunity to become more informed about how to reach out to Muslims living within our local community."

"I really enjoyed being part of Jude & Avisai's Al Massira group. Their encouragement and friendly manner meant we never felt a question was stupid. Using a very Arab setting with videos and interviews the course presented the Big Picture of the Bible & God's plan for salvation through people, starting with Adam that are familiar to Muslims from the Koran. The course has given me confidence that sharing our faith can happen more easily if we pursue friendships & relationships first. We can all pray for opportunities to get to know Muslims in Portadown and then ask God to help us use the opportunities in a friendly way. Thank you for offering me this chance".

## *Judith*

I, Judith, have attended training sessions for parents of children with DS, focusing on topics like early literacy and numeracy, behaviour, toilet training, play skills. It has been very interesting and helpful. I have also had other zoom meetings the past months including an 'Evening with Jani Ortlund for Ministry Wives' hosted

## He is Risen! (Mt. 28:5-10)

"The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. **He is not here; he has risen**, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: '**He has risen from the dead** and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you. So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus **met them**. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid.'" "Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will **see** me."

## WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY, 21 MARCH

We celebrated today with millions of people around the world the lives of those in our communities who have Down Syndrome. We feel honoured to be part of this community and so blessed to have Eliab in our lives. And so thankful to all of you who love him so much!



*With much love,  
Avisai, Judith & Eliab*

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by the Baptist College where Avisai is studying. As well as that I've had the privilege of sharing about God's faithfulness in my life with groups of women in Mexico and Spain, great opportunities for fellowship with ladies I met when in Mexico, and to practice my Spanish.

### Family Update

Eliab has started a play Group, 'Happy Tots', 2 mornings a week. He is loving the social interaction with other children which he has missed for a year. But the last week he was upset and we were called to collect him. Pray that he will settle well after Easter as it is so beneficial for his development. His 'Statement of Special Educational Needs' has also come through and he got a place in Seagoe Primary School, Nursery Unit. Starts in September this year. He also loves playing football with Daddy.



Eliab had his own first Zoom 'meeting' - a dance class for children with Down Syndrome. He loved it!



### Please pray for:

- Avisai's application for 'Settled Status' to be granted
- The foreign nationals in our town - that we will see this time that they spend among us as an opportunity to reach out to them with God's love and gospel. And that God would be stirring their hearts towards him.
- New ministry opportunities as lockdown restrictions ease

*Thank you for your support for us. May God bless you and keep you, and make his face to shine upon you.*