

Tragedy and Opportunity Beckons in Southern Europe -by Wesley Kawato

The Middle East and parts of Africa are exploding with conflicts, and people are fleeing to Europe for safety. This has been going on for a number of years; but last year the situation greatly intensified. In 2015 the number of people seeking asylum in the European Union reached crisis levels. More than 300,000 people used sea routes to reach Greece on their way to other parts of Europe.

An Opportunity for the Gospel

Many of these refugees come from closed countries where missionaries aren't welcome. Followers of Jesus Christ have taken advantage of the situation to show the love of Jesus Christ to suffering people. For example, churches in Serbia have provided food and water to refugees passing through their hometowns.

Mission agencies have also reached out to the refugees. The International Mission Board (IMB), a ministry of the Southern Baptist Convention, has been especially active in Hungary. IMB missionaries have provided food. water, and shelter to refugees stuck in Hungary and unable to travel further. Such acts open the door for conversations about spiritual matters.

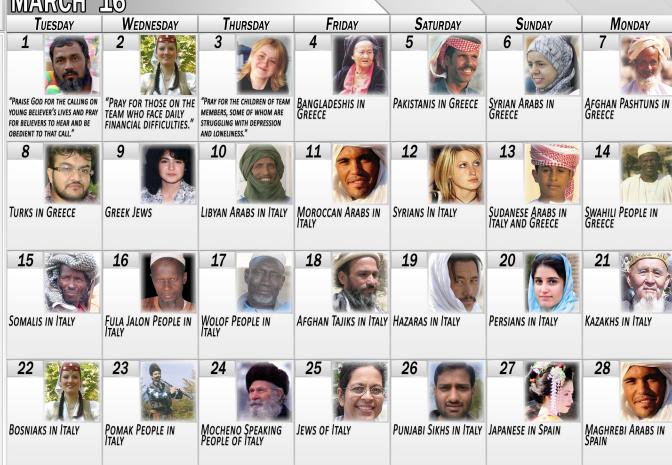
Eastern Europe & Eurasia Prayer Points:

- Pray for the restoration of peace in the Middle East and Africa so that innocent people will not suffer.
- Ask God to awaken the churches in Europe to the outreach possibilities presented by the refugee crisis.
- Pray that God would open the hearts of the refugees to the message of salvation.
- Pray that the current tragedy will result in entire people groups having movements to Christ that will affect the Middle East and Africa.
- Ask God for multiple discipleship movements among the various refugee populations.





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MOORS IN SPAIN

ALGERIAN ARABS IN SPAIN

SEPHARDIC JEWS IN SPAIN

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