

# Middle East

The Arabic speaking world stretches from Morocco to Iraq, from Lebanon to Sudan. In human terms the needs in the rich Gulf states are very different from those in Iraq or Sudan. But the real need is for people to hear the gospel in a way they can understand.

Our need is not people who are especially gifted evangelists but those who love the Lord and will do the work of an evangelist. Having a tent-making type skill can be helpful and can give more options of location, but is no longer necessary. Being prepared to learn the language is very helpful but with improving education there are many opportunities to share in English.

The people we need are those whose love for the Lord and love for the lost compels them to action. Islam is very strong and culturally very different. We need to be able to listen to others so that we understand them enough to be able to share the gospel in a meaningful way.

This may all sound like a funny job description but, if your heart is right, there is a place for you in sharing the good news with Arabic speaking peoples. Are you prepared to find that place?

When you live and serve in the Arabic world every individual is important. Jesus emphasised the importance of the one over against the 99. It is a great privilege to make friends with people and to share our lives as well as the Gospel. It takes time, patience and above all love to build a friendship and to gain trust. The daily life of an individual Christian or of a Christian family can be very powerful and may correct false views that people in Arabic societies may have of Christians.

It is a wonderful thing when someone from a Muslim background comes to faith in Christ. They need all the love and support we can give them as they rejoice in their new relationship with the Lord and at the same time experience the pain of being rejected by those they love most.

It involves a long-term commitment from the time you begin to learn the language and get an understanding of the culture to when you are able to study the Word and pray in small groups of believers and to experience your unity together in the Lord.



Behind the outward affluence are people who need to know Jesus.



The Arab speaking world

