A MIRACLE FROM JESUS
Years ago, Essam* was imprisoned for smuggling people into Europe. Disowned by his family and shunned by his religious community, he was left homeless until a man offered him a van to live in. “Whatever you need, Daniel* will help you,” the man told Essam. That was how Essam was introduced to Daniel, an Alliance worker serving in Europe. “While it's actually quite annoying to be presented that way,” notes Daniel, “an intro like that will provide an express lane to learning the felt needs—and eventually the heart—of this dear man.”

Daniel gave Essam a Bible and invited him to a house church retreat. Essam gladly accepted. While there, he was excited to share that he slept well “because the Bible was beside him,” and he enjoyed being part this loving community. “I can't describe this,” he said. “It's just so good.” Daniel and the others held a special time of prayer for Essam on the last day of the retreat, and he was deeply touched by their compassion.

The following Sunday, Essam insisted on joining the house church. Over the previous week, several people had come by the van where he was staying. “I've never seen the person before. I don't know him,” said Essam. “But God has heard your prayers for me, and Jesus came to my van. He knocked on my window, and when I opened it, He had clothes for me. Then another visitor came and gave me a chicken burger! It's a miracle from Jesus! Praise the Lord!”

God has continued to show His faithfulness to Essam—even providing him with crutches after an ankle injury. As Daniel delivered the crutches, he reminded Essam, “Remember to trust God, Essam. We prayed, and He has answered.” Essam was ecstatic to receive the crutches. “Oh, thank You, my Lord! Thank you, Daniel! Oh, how wonderful!” he said with laughter in his voice. “You and Jesus—thank you both.”

Pray for Daniel and other international workers as they discern how to best extend Christ's love and care to people like Essam in challenging places. Pray for the salvation of those who attend gatherings as seekers—that they will take the step of faith and choose to identify as Christ followers.

*Name changed

TO ACCESS ADDITIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS, PLEASE VISIT CMALLIANCE.ORG/PRAY.
REDEEMED FROM WITCHCRAFT

Miguel and Daniela* arrived at the Ipiales shelter in March 2020—a shelter you helped an Alliance church in Colombia open for refugees and immigrants through your prayers and giving. Almost immediately, the couple stood out to the shelter staff and church leaders because they were headed north instead of south, back to Venezuela, to search for their children; and they were strongly committed to practicing witchcraft.

During the couple’s stay in Ipiales, Daniela suffered a miscarriage. The Alliance church came around her and Miguel, providing medicine, food, and counseling. CAMA, a branch of Alliance Missions that partners with national churches and local entities in times of crisis, could provide the needed funds because of the generosity and compassion of Alliance people like you.

One church leader, feeling God prompting him to build a relationship with this couple, began meeting weekly with them to share the hope of the gospel. During one of those meetings, Miguel and Daniela accepted Jesus into their lives! They burned their witchcraft tools, knowing it meant being rejected by their family.

In June, Miguel and Daniela finally made it to the border of Colombia and Venezuela where they were reunited with their children. They saw God answer prayer! The couple quickly became connected with a church, and Daniela was baptized. Praise God for His work in their lives through the generosity and prayers of His people.

*Name changed

“MY HELP FROM GOD”

This October, our host country in northern Asia saw record COVID highs and daily deaths. As Alliance international workers, it grieves us that so many lost people are daily entering eternity—often it is the elderly.

Perhaps that is why my husband, Dan,* and I are taking so much joy in our friend Barney.* This man in his 70s took an interest in Dan shortly after our return here in August. Barney is always on the bench outside our apartment building, and he always wants to talk! The more he conversed with Dan, it became obvious that Barney’s life is full of regrets and problems.

Having been rejected by most of his family, he has faced his challenges alone. In recent months, Dan has worked hard to help Barney resolve some of his troubles, and he is filled with gratitude—often hugging Dan and whispering, “You are my only hope!”

Increasingly, Dan has been able to point Barney to God, proclaiming the hope of the Lord, and Barney has begun calling him “My help from God.”

Pray that Barney will receive new life in Jesus. Pray also that those suffering from COVID, especially the elderly, will encounter people who share the gospel with them.

*Name changed

adapted from a report by an Alliance international worker serving in a creative-access location

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