



The Botros Family

### Arab Baptist Theological Seminary كلية اللاهوت المعمدانية العربية

**Who?** Emad and Almess Botros. They have two young boys, Timothy and Nathaniel.

**When?** The Botroses were appointed by Canadian Baptist Ministries in January 2015.

**Where?** Emad serves at the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary (ABTS) in Beirut, Lebanon, where he and Almess first met and studied. Lebanon is a country of approximately 4.5 million, and is bordered by Syria to the north and east, and by Israel to the southwest.

**What?** Emad serves as a lecturer in the areas of Old Testament and Islamic studies at ABTS.

**Why?** Emad's desire is to equip and empower students with sufficient tools to develop their understanding of the Old Testament, and to help students learn how to apply their knowledge in their Middle Eastern and North African settings. Emad is also developing resources and models for ministry in the Islamic context.

Almess is also involved at ABTS in two different ways: she leads an English Circle group among the students every Wednesday, and is mentoring two ladies from Egypt and Yemen.

After he finished teaching a course, "Intro to the Backgrounds of the Old Testament," Emad strongly felt that he is in the place where God wants him to be. He enjoys the teaching experience very much, and the time he spends with students outside the classroom is very valuable, in that it gives him the opportunity to help students apply the knowledge that they receive in the

classroom into their lives and ministries. This is what really gives Emad the most joy in his work.

The Botros family attends the Resurrection Baptist Church. The church has four main services: two for Syrian refugees, one for Iraqi refugees, and one for others who attend the church. Emad's main ministry at the church is to help other church members develop discipleship materials for the groups. The church has launched its first program to train the leaders of these groups on this new curriculum. The number of Syrian and Iraqi refugees in Lebanon is massive. One of the major challenges that Lebanese churches face in ministering to refugees is how to meet their need for things such as food, clothes, and education.

Emad says, "As a seminary, we have developed a mentoring program that aims to nurture the holistic development of emerging Christian leaders currently studying at the seminary, through spending quality time with an established ministry leader who is able to support their personal, ministerial, and spiritual development, and challenge them [to] faithfulness and effectiveness in service."

### Prayer Requests

- **Pray** for the two students Emad is mentoring, that their conversations will be an effective tool in shaping the lives of the students. Also pray for the women whom Almess mentors.
- **Pray** for wisdom in dealing with the physical needs of the refugees, and that the ministry to them demonstrates the love of God.
- **Pray** for the safety of ministry leaders in Sudan; they serve the church in a hostile context.
- **Pray** for peace to return to Syria and for the bloodshed to stop. Ask God that the church will become an agent of reconciliation, healing, and hope in Syria, and among Syrian refugees all over the world.
- **Pray** for Timothy and Nathaniel, that they may understand the purpose of being in Lebanon, and grasp what God is doing in their lives through this experience.
- **Pray** for Almess, that the Lord will guide her steps and give her joy in whatever she does.
- **Pray** for Emad as he prepares for his doctoral dissertation while continuing to preach at the Iraqi and Syrian ministries at his church. Intercede for good progress in his involvement in developing discipleship materials for small groups.

Helen Hopper

UBWMU/ABW Corresponding Secretary

Sources: Botros Family Updates, December 2015, March 2016