

# Loving the Overlooked

## God Saves.

*Jesus continues to save people from their sins. Matthew 1:21*

At Christmas, we remember that, in the person of Jesus, **God came near**. He hadn't forgotten His promises. He wouldn't forget His people. And this coming near was for a very specific purpose: **to save**. In fact, the name Jesus means, "God saves."

"S" thought he was coming to Europe for a better education and a better job, but, as he says, "God has shown me that I was on a **journey for truth**." "S" saw that he needed a forgiveness that only Jesus - the perfect sacrifice, the spotless Lamb of God - could provide. Last month, "S" gave his life to Jesus. Indeed, **God saves**.

"G" - an Afghan - fled his homeland long ago. It was in India, nearly **nine years ago**, that "G" first heard the gospel. Now in Athens, "G" decided to follow Jesus just three weeks ago. This is no small decision. "G" is risking his family, his friends, even his own safety to follow Jesus. What can compel such risk? **Love**. Through Jesus, "G" understands the love of God - a



love that is worth *everything*. Indeed, **God saves**.

"A" and his wife, also Afghans, are loving parents (with 2 young boys), genuinely friendly people, and - now - **followers of Jesus**. After months of studying the Bible and asking questions, "A" recently shared that he and his wife want to confess their faith publically on Christmas day. Yes, indeed, **God saves!** This was the angel's message to Joseph and Mary 2,000 years ago, and it's still the message of Christmas today: Jesus. God Saves.



**Joyful! Joyful!**

In the midst of the Christmas season, we're also celebrating Sofia and Emma's birthdays!

We celebrated Emma's first birthday on the 2nd of December. She's walking, running, even climbing! She's more interactive everyday. What a joy!

Sofia turns 3 on January 8th. She loves to play and learn. She loves helping mom around the house and helping her little sister learn and explore. She's amazing. What a joy!

### GENEROUS.

Our God is generous. We've also seen your generosity over the last 3 1/2 years! **Thank you!** As 2010 comes to a close, would you consider giving a year-end gift? Your special gift would help us immensely as our medical insurance premiums will almost double in the new year. Deeply and sincerely, thank you!

**Give online** securely through International Teams: <http://www.iteams.org/us/action/give/>

Or, if you prefer, **send a check** to the following address (makes checks payable to "International Teams" with a note designating the gift for "the Sanners in Athens"):

International Teams  
411 W. River Rd.  
Elgin, IL 60123

Again, thanks!

Wishing you a Merry Christmas!

*The Sanners*