

IN THE MORNING SOW YOUR SEED, AND AT EVENING WITHHOLD NOT YOUR HAND, FOR YOU DO NOT KNOW WHICH WILL PROSPER, THIS OR THAT, OR WHETHER BOTH ALIKE WILL BE GOOD.

Eccl. 11:6



CHRISTMAS MORNING WITH THE BEST TEAM



RARE FAMILY PHOTO!



GIVING THE GOSPEL AT THE XMAS CONCERT!

THE ROBBINS IN IZMIR

Christmas Miracles

By the amazing grace of God, we were able to host our 3rd annual Christmas concerts this past December. For those of you who have been following along since we first moved here, early on we were given permission by a Catholic priest to use his beautiful historic building for Christmas concerts several years ago. This year, despite a lot of uncertainty around covid restrictions, we did it again! We had our very own Turkish choir (led by Liz) alongside an amazing band (led by Brittany) that included a guest professional classical guitarist, Sinan, as well as Zoe Turk (vocals) and Charles Hadley (sound mixing) who came from Baltimore to be a part of this miraculous outreach event. We hosted two nights in a row and each night it was standing-room-only! Towards the end, Roger preached a bold powerful Christmas Gospel message to a crowd of 250-300 people. The glory of Christ’s birth, the depth of meaning His coming brought, and the joy we can have because of it was tangibly felt both nights. For most of the attendees, it was their first time at any type of Christmas event and their first time hearing what Christmas is really all about (the Gospel!). We are truly in awe of what God did those two evenings.



If you’d like to watch the concert, we have it up on our YouTube channel so grab a seat and [**CLICK HERE**](#) to watch what God did here for Christmas!



*Left: The kids sang Jingle Bells!
Right: Our Turkish-singing choir made of 5 nationalities (Turkish, American, Uzbek, Indian, Filipino, and Senegal).
Above: Birds eye view of the concert, in a historic Catholic Church.*

Team & Church Update: We're GROWING & MOVING.

December has come and gone and, to be honest, we have a little bit of whiplash. It was a month of some incredible highs but also some very jarring lows. We want to share with you some of that as well as our future plans as a church.

As some of you may know, in order to be able to meet freely and legally as a church, we must be registered as a "religious association" with the Turkish government. This past year, we were forced to give up that legal standing due to issues outside of our control. When we returned to Izmir this fall, we intended to begin the bureaucratic process of registering as a new association. At that same time, we were quickly outgrowing our rented church space (Praise the Lord!). On a regular Sunday, we were used to have 20-25 people come but this winter we started to regularly have closer to 35-40 people in attendance. As New Years approached (and with it, the end of our rental contract), our landlord told us he was doubling the rent and to make a very long story short, we decided it was time to make a change. So we told the landlord we would not renew our lease and we packed up the church. Due to the legal requirements to start a new association, we have to find a new place to rent as a church space before we can apply to be a "church association." That means we have no choice but to meet in our home until we find the right place to rent.

So, we ask for your continued prayers and financial support as we turn this new page. We will need to increase our budget in order to afford a larger space (for our larger church!) as well as having to pay the hefty fees to apply for a new church registration as a religious association. These decisions have weighed very heavily on our hearts and we have sensed the burden of leadership all the more these past few weeks. At the same time, we believe that God is using these "unexpected" things to move us into a new season, a new place where we can grow and reach more lost people with the glorious Gospel of grace. We cannot thank you enough for your faithful support!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Liz was recently on a Missions Monday panel hosted by GGWO online. The theme was Discipleship and Investment. [CLICK HERE](#) to watch!

Prayer Requests:

- For God to give guidance and wisdom in choosing a new church space and all the legal steps to be registered.
- For our family — health, homeschooling, new friends, and overall growth in faith as a family.
- For our new believers, including Buse (young woman who met us through the Xmas concerts) and Polat (a man Roger has been friends with for 3 years), to grow in grace and truth.
- For those believers that have grown distant — to be drawn back into fellowship.
- For financial support for Vijay — monthly donors so that he can afford an apartment and living expenses.
- For **new team members** we still feel an urgent need for more long-term, mature, equipped team members to join us. We will keep asking until they come. Please, Lord!
- For the **salvation** of dear friends: Berk, Almira, Mehmet, Cemre, Yasemin (Denizhan's mother), Zeynep, Sedef & Çağdaş, and many more!

Please consider supporting our pioneering work here in Izmir! You can donate to GG Izmir through the [GGWO missions website](#). Contact us!