

onthehorizon

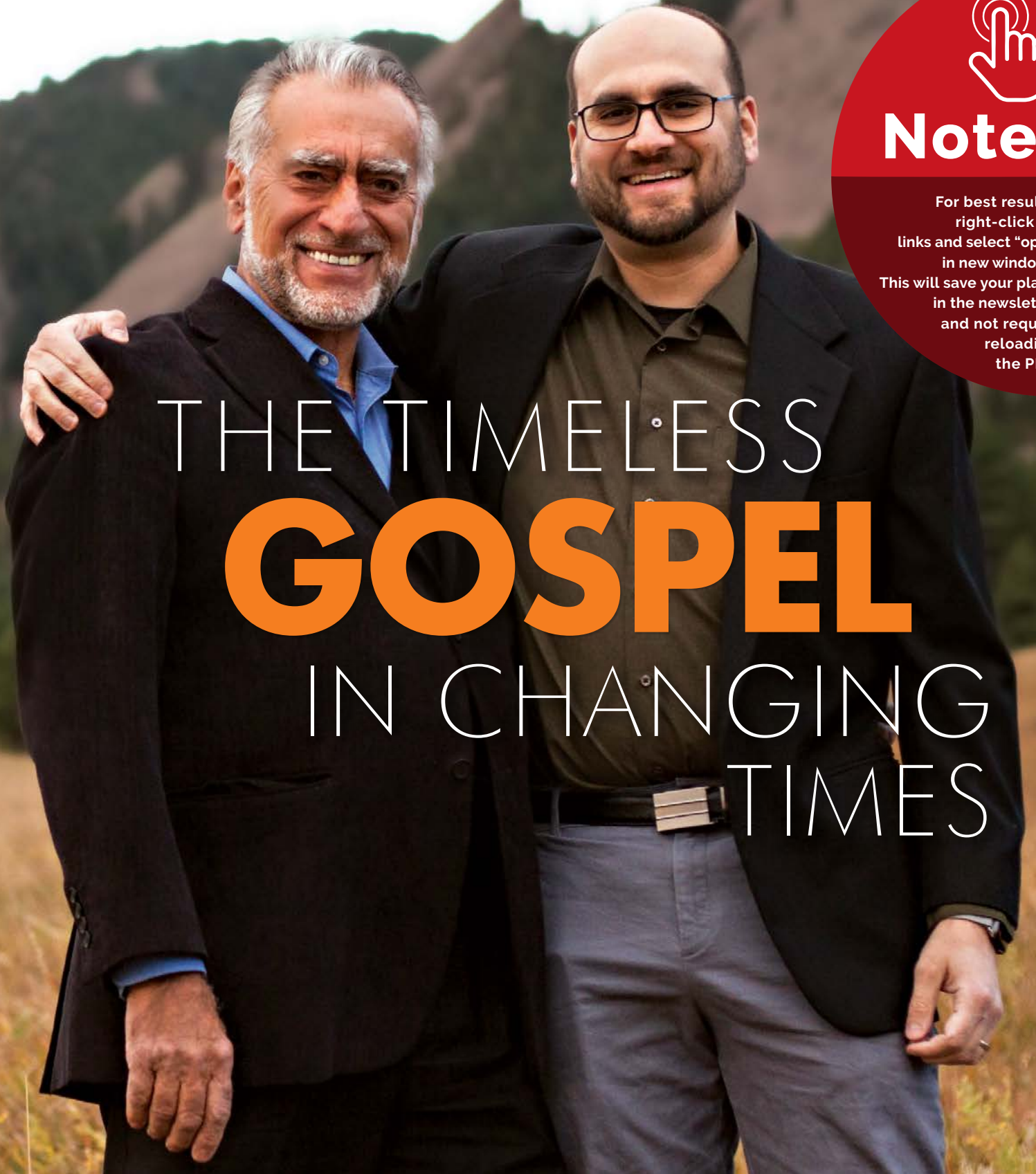
• • • Horizons International Newsletter – December 2020 • • • • •



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THE TIMELESS **GOSPEL** IN CHANGING TIMES





YOUSEF

A FORMER MUSLIM'S TESTIMONY

Hello everyone, it's Yousef Alwani from Syria. I live in Lebanon and I'm 25 years old. I grew up Muslim, but I became a Christian 11 years ago. Growing up in a Muslim family and culture was very difficult. I was forced to accept so many teachings without thinking about them.

One day, I saw a pastor named David Jeremiah teaching on television. His preaching, and **the big love I saw in Christianity, led me to accept Jesus in my heart.**

I started serving with Horizons 2 years ago. I spent a lot of time in children's ministry, and I like doing street evangelism and sharing Christ with people in the streets. **I have seen God work through Horizons in every detail of what we do.** Serving with Horizons has greatly increased my effectiveness in sharing the gospel with Muslims.

Many members of my family hate me for my faith, and some don't care, but none of them are Christian. When my uncle found out, he started pushing me around and yelling at me in a restaurant, and my cousins had to pull him away. When my mother heard she kicked me out of the house, but the same day she invited me back, and admitted to me that **she felt like demons inside her had told her to kick me out!**

I would say to anyone who wants to share the gospel with Muslims, **we need to love them first.** We should convince ourselves that the person in front of us is deeply loved by Christ—so we should love them too! I do that by making friends with them and helping them in their daily lives.

Please pray for me, and thank you so much.

Yousef Alwani
Field Staff in Missions, Lebanon

GLOBAL UPDATE:

THE CHURCH UNDER PRESSURE

Christians are facing increased persecution in countries across the globe, in addition to the threats so many face as a result of coronavirus, global economic woes, political scandals, and the specter of war. Even amid such difficult trials, we are all called to hold firm in the faith, so that all may see in us the glory of God.

ARMENIA

Majority-Christian Armenia and Muslim Azerbaijan have revived a decades-old border war, and active conflict has already displaced nearly one million Christians.

CHINA

The communist Chinese government is forcibly closing many underground churches, requiring foreign missionaries to leave, and taking steps to secularize the government-sanctioned church. Christians are beaten or imprisoned for preaching Christ, and many have resorted to meeting secretly or praying in online groups.



HONG KONG & TAIWAN

As China seeks to exercise greater legal and political control over its previously autonomous regions, believers anticipate that they will soon face the persecution and human rights violations already occurring on the mainland.

ALGERIA

The pro-Islamic Algerian government has used false legal arguments to force church closures. Christian protests against the government have been met with violence and abuse.

AFGHANISTAN

Both the Afghani government and the Taliban persecute Afghani Christians—and with the two parties in peace talks, believers fear that a truce may result in increased violence toward Christians. Already, many believers are meeting in secret to avoid persecution.

Pray for believers around the world to be empowered and encouraged in sharing the gospel, and for God to bless and protect persecuted believers with courage and faith in their trials.



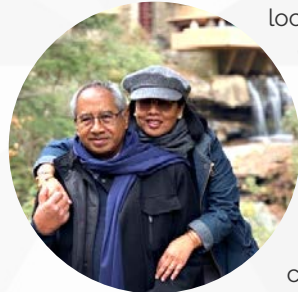
How was 2020 for you? testimonies from Horizons staff around the world

Boutros Wehbe, Director of Field Ministries, Lebanon —



“Last month I was infected by coronavirus. It was a very hard time for me. In the middle of this, I felt the presence of God and his tenderness surrounding and protecting me, and I experienced the true love of all my brothers and sisters who prayed for me. After I left the hospital I felt that God gave me new opportunities to testify to his love and salvation.”

Allain and Nicole Ravelo-Hoëron, South Africa —



“During the strict lockdown period, some Muslims driven by hunger or the cold rung our gate bell, asking for help. They were given both physical and spiritual nourishment. Even during Ramadan, when Muslims were supposed to fast during the day, some of them came to our gate and begged for food. I made a point of sharing something to eat with them and telling them about the God who displayed his love on the cross. We also gave out Bibles and New Testaments.”

Grace Teubl, School of Hope Partnership Coordinator, Lebanon



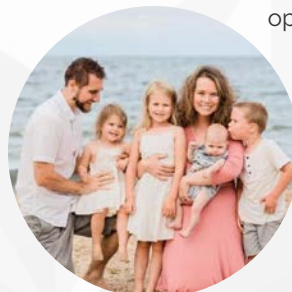
— “God has shown me that He is able to put me exactly where He wants me to be in His perfect timing. In March He allowed me to return to Lebanon five days before the airport shut down. In August, he moved me to a new house three days before the explosion, and my old house was severely damaged. God is the one who opens doors that no man can shut.”

Tamar Majoulian, Evaluation Coordinator and HR Facilitator, Lebanon —



“While the country was going through crisis and lockdown, God on the other hand was preparing the way for us to reach the Lebanese people. These same people once rejected the very thought of being preached to or even visited by an evangelical community or church! But after seeing our faithfulness in keeping our promises and meeting their needs, they now see how God works through true believers. Now we have an open door, where they beg us to come to sit, talk, and listen to them.”

Kyle Stob, Operations Manager, Colorado —



“2020 has offered many opportunities to turn to the Lord with things like student ministry in Boulder, how to be the church, and family health needs. In the midst of it all, I am reminded of our call to love God and love others by making disciples. That needs to be my main focus, no matter my circumstances.”

Pastor Femi Cakolli, B.U.M. Church, Kosovo —



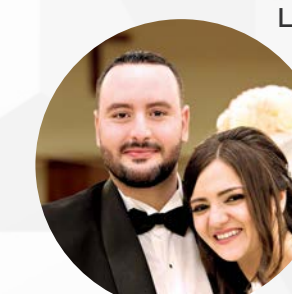
“Almost all of us make different plans for the week, month, or year—and sometimes even longer. As the Church, we work with elders all the time to plan what we will do as a body. When March of this year came, many of B.U.M. Church’s plans fell through, and now more often than ever before, I have to ask God, “What are Your plans?”

Ashley Dykstra, Director of Member Care, Alabama —



“In March, a week before giving birth to my second child, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. In the following months as I went through treatment, I’ve battled fear, self pity, and an anxious urge to try to feel in control of the situation. Throughout this season of sickness and uncertainty I have also had much peace and joy. I’ve made progress in releasing my futile grip on control, instead trusting God to shepherd me.”

Avo Kazazian, Communications Coordinator and Graphic Designer, Lebanon —



“2020 has been a year of unprecedented challenges and never-ending, accumulating problems, especially for those of us in Lebanon. Getting married in the midst of all this chaos—only 45 days after the Beirut explosion, and 3 weeks after my wife and her entire family contracted COVID-19—has been challenging to say the least! But still, we press on with the Gospel, and proclaim His grace is sufficient.”

Pastor Barry Illunga, WOTA Ministries, Zambia —



“All our plans both to send missionaries and do service here were shattered. Zambia and our ministry specifically have been affected by COVID-19 badly. In 2021 and beyond we need God’s intervention and innovation in doing ministry.”

Pat Leung, Board Member of Horizons International Asia, Hong Kong —



“We’ve had many chances to share the gospel with Muslims and even have brought a few Muslims to Christ.”

Linda Raymond, Director of Marketing and Cubs to Lions Coordinator, Canada —



“As a training and event coordinator, the cancellation of the 30th Anniversary Banquet and Cubs to Lions discipleship training left me feeling lost, bewildered, and discouraged. The decision to move forward in faith, planning an online and in-person Engaging Islam Institute in September breathed life back into my heart. The new online platform became the most successful Institute ever with 65 attendees and a global audience! Our Cubs to Lions ministry also moved to a weekly Zoom Bible study with Georges Houssney, something we have wanted to do for many years. Because of tremendous interest, we are now planning an online academy to train even more missionaries. If 2020 has taught me anything, it is to be adaptive to new ways to connect and minister to others.”

Rita Reslan, Children’s Ministry Coordinator, Lebanon —



“Since March, we started writing CTL-Kids, a one-year curriculum for churches with Muslim children. It’s challenging to be out of live ministry, but we believe that someday many children will come to the Lord through this book! On a personal level, Haytham (Communications Department) and I got married, and we are expecting our first child!”



SCAN ME

For more staff testimonies, point your phone camera at the QR code and follow the link that pops up!
horizonsinternational.blog/2020/11/05/2020-from-around-the-world/

THE TIMELESS GOSPEL IN CHANGING TIMES:

AN INTERVIEW
WITH GEORGES AND
PIERRE HOUSSNEY

*“Consider it pure joy,
my brothers and
sisters, whenever you
face trials of many
kinds, because you
know that the testing
of your faith produces
perseverance. Let
perseverance finish its
work so that you may be
mature and complete,
not lacking anything.”*

James 1:2-4

How do we maintain a clear focus on a timeless and eternal God, yet adapt to new circumstances and challenges in a rapidly changing world? Georges Housney and his son, Pierre, take a moment at the close of a historic year to share their thoughts on the difficulties ministries must navigate—social, familial, cultural, and technological—in order to remain unrelenting and faithful to their work in the Great Commission.

Interviewed by Noah Karp.

Noah Karp: Georges and Pierre, thank you for taking the time to sit down with me. I'll start with an unavoidable question: how has the year 2020 been for you?

Georges Housney: When I think upon the last year, it reminds me of the beginning of James, where the author says that you must “take joy in trials of every kind, because the testing of your faith produces steadfastness, and steadfastness character”—

Pierre Housney: —and then it says, “so that you might lack nothing.” Right? Paul is actually saying that lack itself is how you gain the thing

Georges Housney
President and Founder of Horizons International

Pierre Housney
Executive Director of Horizons International

that makes you lack nothing. I think that's a good verse for this year. Between a global pandemic, the political and economic crisis in Lebanon, and the recent explosion in Beirut, we have certainly had to grow to meet many trials!

Noah: So Pierre, have those trials helped to make you "perfect and complete"?

Pierre: They've definitely tried us! Amid coronavirus lockdowns especially, I think that the limitations caused by 2020 have actually led to creativity, to reprioritization. We've seen staff members gain new gifts through technology and creative teamwork that they never thought would be possible, because their old ways of doing things couldn't be done anymore. That led to growth that I hope, I believe, will be maintained even when we can have the old ways of doing things available to us again.

Georges: I think trials strengthen the dependence on the gospel that sustains us personally as ministers, and as Horizons on the whole. Focusing on Jesus, we "Proclaim the Gospel, Disciple the Nations, and Equip the Church." We can always work to understand methodologies and strategies, but being strongly rooted in Christ must be the foundation from which all ministry grows. The simple gospel touches hearts where cleverness cannot.



We can always work to understand methodologies and strategies, but being strongly rooted in Christ must be the foundation from which all ministry grows.



Pierre: The holistic model of Jesus allows us to just be ourselves in ministry, to find different ways of expressing who we are through ministry, because really our goal is to be like Jesus—and he had a very holistic model! He was always preaching and teaching, and at the same time was healing and feeding and showing signs and wonders, and discipling at the same time as evangelizing and equipping. For us, because we're trying to imitate Christ and live out the gospel, we always find opportunities to do that, but it never changes our goal.

Noah: Obviously there could be no better plumb line for a church or ministry than Jesus' own ministry on earth—but do you think the Western Church is up to the task?

Georges: Perhaps, but the global Church is often more alive than the American Church! We live in comfort and we are spoiled by it. In many ways, we miss out on the hunger of the world, the suffering and pain. In fact, America has itself become a missions field, not just a sender of missionaries! The church in America needs revival; it needs to be revived!

Pierre: As we have experienced both sides of missions over the years—both training missionaries from the West to serve in the MENA region and equipping indigenous believers for missions—we see that in God's wisdom, He has given unique combinations of needs and resources on both sides. They can produce amazing results, when missionaries and indigenous believers work together in harmony.

Noah: How do you connect these two people groups when coronavirus has made traveling much more difficult?

Pierre: Mostly by creating and fostering online connections. The potential to reach people and impact them across the world is just multiplied through tech. Whether that's through training courses and virtual vision trips for believers, or online discipleship courses for non-believers, the opportunity is there.

Noah: Virtual vision trips? I'm not even sure how something like that would work!

Georges: Well, often we are not sure how something might work—until we must work on it!



America has itself become a missions field, not just a sender of missionaries! The church in America needs revival; it needs to be revived!

Pierre: *(laughing)* Very true! We've already managed to "send" some American church members on virtual vision trips to Lebanon, where they interact with our indigenous staff and hear about the work on the ground.

Georges: This allows both sides to learn from each other, and grow from communicating with other cultures. Part of the vision of Horizons is that the Middle East is not simply a receiver of missionaries, but a sender of missionaries as well.

Pierre: Yes, that's why we started the Middle East Center for World Missions (MEC): as a hub for equipping indigenous missionaries and connecting them with the global Church. That's why the MEC is just now launching a year-round Engaging Islam Academy, to equip believers from around the globe—online and in-person—for reaching Muslims with the gospel. At this time in history, with these tools, we have a chance to rejuvenate missions in a way that hasn't been achieved since biblical times.



SCAN ME

To learn more about the MEC, point your phone camera at the QR code and follow the link that pops up.
middleeastcenter.org/

Noah: Praise God! Virtual vision trips, online training courses... new tools in the ministry toolbelt!

Georges: Yes, online training is an amazing way to reach people. We just livestreamed an Engaging Islam Institute held in Dearborn, Michigan. And I have been leading a weekly Cubs to Lions discipleship meeting via Zoom, where Christians from Muslim backgrounds can still come together with one another to fellowship and learn.



Pierre: Social media, web resources, online training, and other channels allow us to reach many people we otherwise couldn't reach.

Georges: When we started Horizons, the vision was reaching displaced people. International students, immigrants, refugees. We said, "Wherever the displaced people are, we need to reach them!" How wonderful it was then, to have myself and Joy working alongside our children! Zef, André, Noelle, and Pierre... they all had a heart to reach people for Christ.

Pierre: Well, dad, speaking for myself, I grew up watching you minister to others, and I always knew my calling would be to serve them alongside you.

Georges: Oh Pierre! I remember when you were in college, and I asked you what you were going to do afterward, and you said—

Pierre: "Baba, I want to work with you and help you!"

Georges: Yes, you did. I was so touched. I never imagined that with all the choices open before you, you would choose to serve with me.

Noah: Or that he'd eventually become Executive Director, I'm sure!

At this time in history, we have a chance to rejuvenate missions in a way that hasn't been achieved since biblical times.

Pierre: Well, both of my parents are evangelists, and I've seen my mom and dad lead many people to the Lord. We children saw them loving on people and dedicating their lives to people. We knew it was genuine. So for me, I didn't want to do anything else.

Georges: This is very important. Often pastors, missionaries, evangelists tell me that they serve "God, family, then ministry"—but I believe it is "God first and last and always." A godly life should have God and family and ministry all together, not separate.

Pierre: I remember growing up, we as a family felt served by my dad. He was the last to eat and the first to get up and do the dishes. He taught us respect by respecting us. He taught us service by serving us.

Noah: A model of servant leadership, then?

Georges: As much as I could be! We cannot share the love of God without showing the love of God. This is why we are serving refugees and those affected by the explosion in Lebanon

through food portions and medical care and building renovation: so they can experience God loving them and meeting their needs.

Pierre: Like the Good Samaritan, we want people to see the Lord's love through action. We've received so many requests for discipleship, prayer, Christian counseling, and more—all started by invitations into people's homes to give food or renovation or other services.

Noah: "We take joy in trials of every kind..."

Pierre: Exactly. Every chance to save a life is so valuable to the Lord. And whether we reach people through virtual outreach, humanitarian work, discipleship groups, street evangelism, whatever—it is all a chance to bring them the Good News.

A godly life should have God and family and ministry all together, not separate.



Noah: So is this what we can expect more of as Horizons looks to the future?

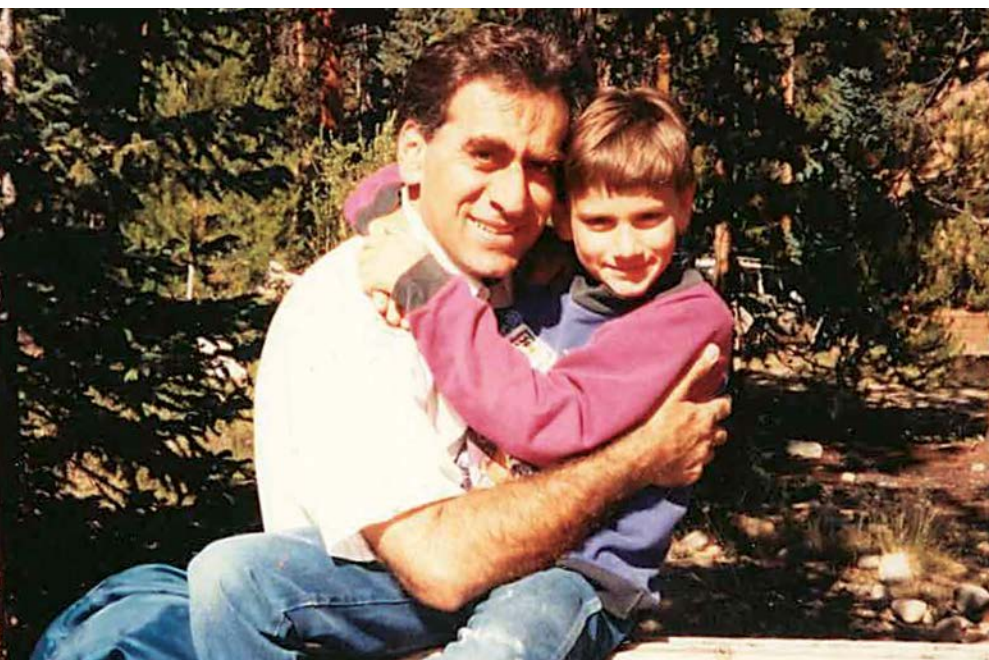
Pierre: Absolutely. There are always valuable projects to develop and invest in, but I think just growing in depth is the most important factor for healthy growth in the future. Developing faith, teamwork, and flexibility helps us unify and preserve our organizational DNA. Unifying the attitudes of our heart and our strategies is important because it allows us to carry out our mission with effectiveness. So I think that working on depth and communication among staff members and unifying our DNA is what makes growth inevitable in the future.

Georges: This is all true. It is good to be vulnerable here and say that we cannot predict the future. Sustainable ministry is not built upon man's plans, but upon steadfastness in the Lord. As this year has proven, who can predict what will happen? But we know that our

total reliance on God makes us "complete, fully equipped for every good work."

Pierre: Yes. As our Operations Manager Kyle says, "we focus on being disciples worth multiplying"—to raise up a new wave of leaders who care more about building the kingdom than their own little fiefdoms. The church must intentionally embrace a culture of multiplication so it doesn't lose the vision for church planting because "we want to build our own church up."

Sustainable ministry is not built upon man's plans, but upon steadfastness in the Lord.



Georges: Amen. In my thirty years of Horizons and over fifty years of ministry, I have always seen God take initiative and give us opportunities, surprise us with things we didn't expect. Like the center in Beirut! You plant seeds, some take 3 weeks to germinate, some take 3 years. All the work I did in Lebanon in my early years is now not just trees, it's orchards! To bring all those churches together, it is a dream come true. I didn't plan to have 65 churches partner with us in Lebanon. I had a general vision, and then Pierre turned it into a plan—and then God made it happen. As we listen to God and take steps as he opens doors, we'll go in those directions. I'm not into planning, but into trusting and following whatever God leads us to do.

Noah: Amen. As we wrap up, do you have a last thought you'd like to share with our readers today?

Pierre: Kingdom collaboration. No matter what your role is, we all work together to build up the body of Christ. Though the world honors people who have more resources, education, gifts, and skills, we must honor God by honoring everyone regardless of what they have. We must work together to use each person's unique gifts for God's greatest glory, remembering that God is the one who brings success to our efforts, not our efforts that bring success to God.



We cannot share the love of God without showing the love of God. This is why we are serving refugees and those affected by the explosion in Lebanon... so they can experience God's love tangibly meeting their needs.

Georges: Personally, I would like to share with our friends and supporters what the Lord impressed on me 20 years ago: to prepare leaders to carry on the ministry that the Lord called me to. He clearly promised me, from Isaiah 43:4, "Because you are precious and honored in My sight, and because I love you, I will give men in exchange for you and nations in place of your life"—and I knew he wanted to raise up new generations of leaders to be exchanged for me after I am gone.



SCAN ME

Keep the conversation going! Join Georges, Pierre, and Horizons staff members and supporters for digital roundtable discussions.
horizonsinternational.org/roundtables

Our ministry is our life. Don't lose the forest for the trees. Our eyes should be on the Lord and on our personal lives, rather than on trying to "serve" Him. Character above strategies. This is what I hope we will all learn: to be more like Jesus in character, so we can let him work through us rather than relying upon intelligent plans. And may God bless us!





VIRTUALIZATION DIGITAL MINISTRY FRONTIERS

In the Information Age, believers can access unprecedented opportunities to share the gospel with the rising generation through technology. In the Middle East alone, over 100 million people aged 15-29 have grown up living online lives, which allows them to be reached in ways never before possible.

For three decades, Horizons International has boldly proclaimed the gospel, discipled indigenous seekers and international students, and equipped churches to reach Muslims. Today, at Horizons' ministry centers throughout the MENA region, and near college campuses throughout the U.S., **new technologies allow staff members to expand their impact far beyond their locales.**

Even before the 2020 pandemic, many potential believers lived sequestered lives on college campuses or in Muslim countries, mainly interacting socially through the internet. The

limitations of 2020 have forced us to adapt quickly and bring the gospel more powerfully to where they already spend most of their time: online.

EXPANDING EVANGELISM THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

"We want to produce life-changing media that will encourage and inspire, and will proclaim the power of the gospel that sets the captives free."

- Charbel Msallem,
Horizons Lebanon Director
of Media Production



As smartphones and laptops are already ubiquitous features of daily life for hundreds of millions of people worldwide, social media presents incredible inroads. However, holding their attention requires compelling and engaging

Is baptism required to enter Christianity?

What is the Holy Spirit?

I've had this dream ... can you help me understand it?

I feel I'm always sinning. What should I do?

What does 'Son of God' mean?

How can God forgive us?

Can you pray for my sick son?

How can God die and be crucified?

I want to know about who Christ is in your religion.

gospel content—so Horizons' Beirut Media Team is expanding production of evangelistic videos specifically for Arabic and Kurdish social media.

This video content **starts Kingdom conversations** online. Short evangelistic videos focus on simple gospel topics: What is the source of safety in your life? Do you have a personal relationship with the true God? Does God only love good people?

Questions like these foster conversations that lead to deeper connections. **Every day, our full-time social media staff members and part-time volunteers answer over a dozen private messages about Christianity, pray for Muslims around the world, and invite Muslims into online discipleship relationships.**

Since talking about Christianity is forbidden in many Muslim countries, Muslims generally prefer

the safety and privacy of anonymous messaging to in-person conversation. In that forum, some may simply wish to debate—but others open up about their doubts, struggles, and trials, and in doing so provide



VIRTUAL SUCCESS!

- 114** evangelistic videos produced; **219,392** minutes watched online
- 18** Muslims proclaimed faith through one-to-one Facebook discipleship
- 45** countries reached through *Pure Heart of the Middle East* Facebook page
- 197,328** *Pure Heart* Facebook page followers (Arabic)
- 13,987** *Dera Kurdi* Facebook page followers (Kurdish)
- 17** Cubs to Lions discipleship sessions online

Testimonies from the 2020 Engaging Islam Institute

"All of the sessions were really inspirational and personally needed."



"This week-long training has been life-changing."

ENGAGING ISLAM

"It was such a powerful week."



"Thanks a lot for making it possible to participate via Zoom! Enjoying it a lot"

"The teachings on evangelism and discipleship are inspiring."



LEARN MORE AT [ENGAGINGISLAM.ORG](https://engagingislam.org)

staff members with opportunities to minister to them through the love of God.

DISCIPLESHIP THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

After taking the first steps toward Jesus, new believers find it difficult to walk in faith without dedicated mentorship. In a pre-pandemic world, Horizons staff members could easily hold face-to-face discipleship meetings and Bible studies with international students, or meet up with believers from Muslim backgrounds. Today, in light of the need for socially-distanced interaction, Horizons staff teams have developed creative technological solutions to continue their ministry.

Horizons' **international student ministry** connects with students through online life-skill seminars, group social media conversations, and is moving to virtual spaces for one-to-one meetings, Bible studies, and discipleship relationships.

In Lebanon, taking in-person **discipleship groups** online has resulted in previously inaccessible

members to join. Staff members also share gospel content and disciple new Christians from Muslim backgrounds (CMBs) through WhatsApp groups.

For the first time, Horizons' popular **Cubs to Lions** discipleship course for CMBs has been moved online. Where once small groups of CMBs had to travel to a physical location for a seven-day training, **Cubs to Lions is now hosted online twice weekly for CMBs from around the globe!** Attendees receive fellowship, encouragement, and



discipleship as they learn how to apply their new faith to all aspects of the Christian life, and they say the teachings have been life-transforming.

EQUIPPING THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Livestreamed from Dearborn, Michigan, Horizons' **2020 Engaging Islam Institute** was our first church training course to reach not only the 30 people who were physically present, but also an additional 35 people attending at their computers from countries around the world! Online attendees, many of whom are currently in ministry or preparing to serve on the field, were able to ask questions, interact as a group, and access an online version of in-depth, practical Engaging Islam Institute content.

To leverage this exciting new capability, **Horizons is launching a fully-online Engaging Islam Academy in 2021!** Real-time virtual access to Engaging Islam Institute instructors, content, and interactive coursework ensures that ministers to Muslims will be equipped to share the gospel effectively, no matter their location.

Also, as mission trips have become more complicated, Horizons' U.S. and MENA teams have collaborated to introduce **virtual vision trips to Beirut!** Through a series of online meetings with staff members in Lebanon, believers and churches can learn firsthand about on-the-ground ministry to Muslims, gain their own vision for ministry in the Middle East, and join other ministers in prayer.

Horizons seeks to advance the gospel for the glory of God, and present challenges have opened up new capabilities to boost existing projects—or start entirely new ones! As we proclaim, disciple, and equip, virtualization becomes a valuable tool to serve the nations and obey the Great Commission.

STAY IN TOUCH WITH HORIZONS:
@[HORIZONSPDE](https://www.facebook.com/HORIZONSPDE)
ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM!



For virtual opportunities, point your phone camera at the QR code and follow the link that pops up!
horizonsinternational.org/opportunities



REBUILDING BEIRUT

horizonsinternational.org/lebanoncrisis

In the capital of Lebanon, a city once dubbed “The Paris of the Middle East,” life is not as romantic as it once was. In the four months since Beirut was devastated by the largest non-nuclear explosion in world history, the city has struggled to recover and rebuild. Global news coverage has died down, but **hundreds of thousands of impacted families are still struggling to survive** amid Lebanon’s collapsing economy and escalating health crisis.

Buildings lie in disrepair; the shambles of storefronts, historic buildings, churches, and homes evoke images of Lebanon’s civil war. Jobs are hard to find and the currency is hyperinflating. Some residents are grieving the loss of loved ones, while others are recovering from severe injuries or post-traumatic stress.

OBSTACLES TO RECOVERY

Lebanon’s population, including over 1.5 million Syrian refugees, was already vulnerable

economically—and the explosion has left another 300,000 homeless in Beirut.

Many are living in substandard conditions and need adequate shelter before winter. Additionally, the blast destroyed Lebanon’s national grain reserves and severely damaged the country’s largest port. Incredibly, some of Beirut’s most critical infrastructure has been decimated at a time when the city’s residents need more help than ever.

Restoring the city of Beirut is expected to take several years; Lebanon’s road to recovery will likely last decades.

For Horizons’ ministry team in Beirut, the obstacles are great, but the opportunity is even greater.

FROM PRESENT NEEDS TO FUTURE SECURITY

Immediately after the explosion, Horizons launched the **Lebanon Crisis Fund** to address the plight of Beirut’s residents. This gospel-focused humanitarian aid initiative delivers **food, medical supplies, and home renovation** services to severely impacted Lebanese citizens and Syrian refugees. These services are provided by Horizons’ 90 Lebanon-based staff members, supported by volunteers from 28 of our local partner churches.

In the U.S., ministries such as Orphan Grain Train and Food for the Hungry have partnered with us to donate and ship over **20 additional tons of food** that street outreach teams can distribute throughout the city.

Residents across the city are humbled as they see God work through Horizons’ teams, and they welcome spiritual help in the form of prayer, free Bibles, and follow-up gospel meetings. Many have

opened up their homes and their hearts to Jesus. They express awe at a God who could inspire such loving help, and they ask to learn more.

To meet the long-term need in Beirut and across Lebanon, Horizons is launching an **agricultural development project** that will purchase farmland near our Beqaa Valley ministry center. The goal of the project is to create a **missional community that offers sustainable employment and produces a stable food supply**, to allow Horizons to continue providing for impoverished refugee and Lebanese families as the country slowly rebuilds its economy.

In a people deeply wounded, the Lord is already helping to heal. We pray for the project’s continued success, and for more believers and churches to unite to bring about a deep spiritual transformation—in Lebanon and beyond.

REBUILDING BEIRUT

STORIES FROM STAFF
ON THE GROUND



For more outreach testimonies, point your phone camera at the QR code and follow the link that pops up!
horizonsinternational.org/lebanoncrisis



SCAN ME

“

“Violette was sitting and talking with her brother about needing to renovate their house before winter and suddenly our team rang the bell. She asked, “Who is it?” They said that they are here to help fix her house, so she opened the door surprised and asked, “Who led you to my house?” Sister Dolly said, “We prayed and asked God who needs help and we saw your house, so Jesus led us to you.” We sat down with her and her brother, who kept on asking so many questions, to the extent that he asked what church he could go to! We led him to a church we know. We also gave them a Bible, and taught the brother how to find his answers there. Violette loves us and she always wants us to visit her.”



“We cooked for one man who lives alone with his dog, and he started eating very quickly and anxiously, and couldn’t believe his eyes. We sat with him and started sharing the Word of God. He had lost a lot in his life, so sister Dolly shared how God changed her life, and that Jesus has the power to change his life too. We promised to visit him again, and on every visit to talk about one book from the Bible—he excitedly wrote a reminder on his white board to read the Bible.”



“Jack and Cosette Andraos were seriously injured in the explosion. After a week in the hospital, they met Bob (a Horizons staff member who was recovering from COVID in the hospital) and asked him for help, so we sent a team to their house. The walls were covered in blood. After four days, we went back with the maintenance team to install plastic sheeting. At the end, when we all gathered as a group and prayed with them, they kept on crying and crying. Their tears were enough for us to understand that Jesus was comforting them and giving them hope and strength.”

“As we were leaving the area one afternoon, Therese asked us to help take things down from the house on the third floor to put them in their cars. The house was destroyed, with blood everywhere, and we had difficulty entering the building, but our brave team carried out the task with the strength of the Lord. We prayed for her together on the sidewalk. She really showed excitement and loved the way we prayed to Jesus. She is thirsty for the Word of God.”

“We met Debes on the street on a bike. He wanted us to help him clean the balcony. He was so happy. We shared the gospel with him, and he gave his heart to Christ and promised he will read the Bible.”

”

2020 IN NUMBERS



114 EVANGELISTIC VIDEOS PRODUCED

65 INDIGENOUS CHURCHES PARTNERED WITH IN LEBANON

88,272 MEALS DISTRIBUTED

1,068 BIBLES DISTRIBUTED



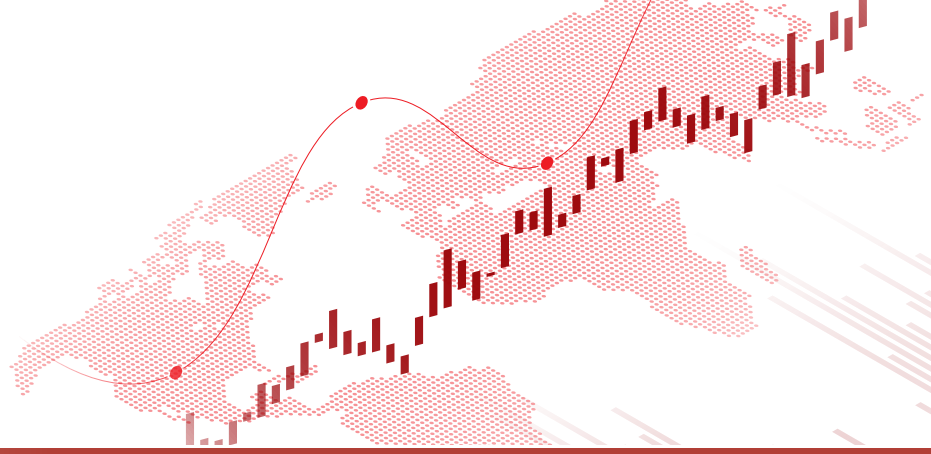
130 STAFF MEMBERS

213 PROCLAMATIONS OF FAITH

9,241 ONLINE GOSPEL CONVERSATIONS

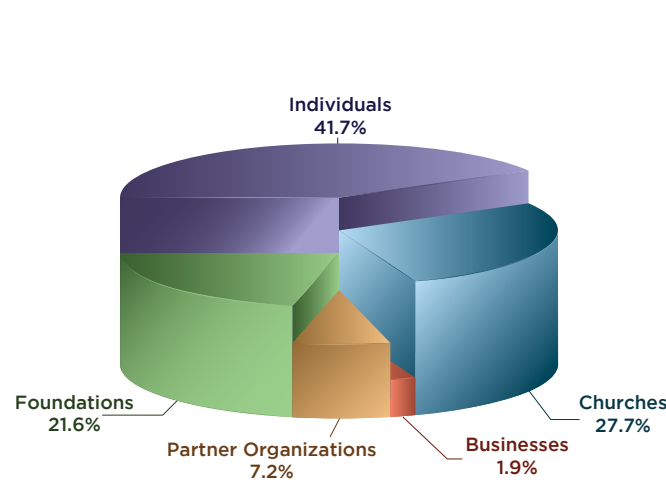
676 CONVERTS DISCIPLED

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

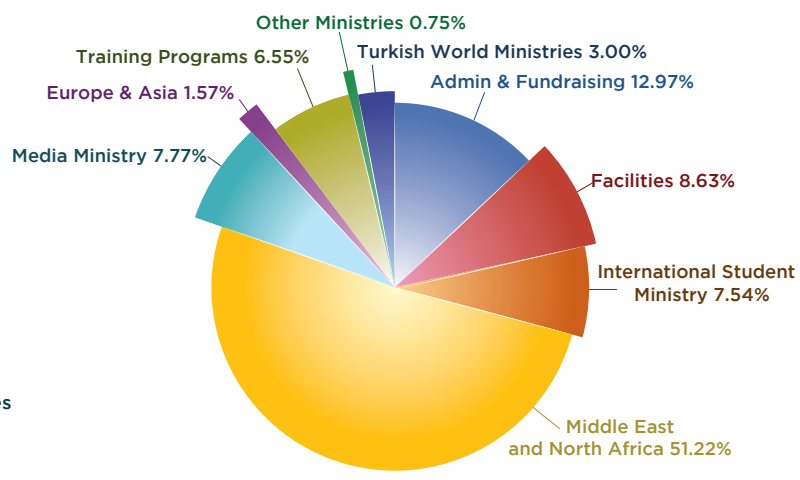


The work of Horizons is made possible through generous contributions by individuals, churches, and foundations. By God's grace, He has inspired an increasing number of people to serve through giving to Horizons' strategic initiatives around the world. Below is a financial report showing income and expenses for the last three years, as well as budgeted figures for 2021.

Expenses	2018 Income	2018 Expenses	2019 Income	2019 Expenses	2020 Income	2020 Expenses	Budget 2021 Income	Budget 2021 Expenses
Admin and Fundraising	\$454,189	\$311,135	\$636,965	\$410,467	\$788,014	\$453,097	\$622,300	\$535,600
Facilities	\$427,031	\$347,682	\$448,724	\$353,028	\$305,854	\$302,998	\$360,000	\$356,500
International Student Ministry	\$279,456	\$268,070	\$295,864	\$325,244	\$301,827	\$303,255	\$293,300	\$311,600
Middle East and North Africa (MENA)	\$1,806,265	\$2,048,194	\$1,935,104	\$2,469,151	\$3,251,646	\$3,170,924	\$2,485,600	\$2,115,800
Media Ministry	\$478,006	\$466,028	\$418,673	\$221,373	\$394,671	\$175,604	\$271,600	\$321,100
Europe and Asia	\$207,310	\$93,372	\$2,790	\$54,421	\$1,794	\$44,255	\$2,200	\$65,000
Training Programs	\$250,523	\$277,889	\$248,917	\$359,891	\$175,105	\$231,587	\$171,400	\$270,600
Other Ministry	\$286,627	\$222,604	\$81,392	\$9,845	\$42,738	\$20,152	\$60,000	\$30,800
TWM	---	---	\$120,417	\$112,356	\$123,480	\$118,362	\$129,100	\$124,000
Total Expenses	\$4,189,407	\$4,034,975	\$4,188,846	\$4,315,776	\$5,385,129	\$4,820,234	\$4,395,500	\$4,131,000



WHO GAVE IN 2020



WHERE WE SPENT IN 2020

These numbers are current as of October 31

2021 WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

People in Lebanon—Muslims, Syrian refugees, and Lebanese alike—are opening up their hearts and homes to Christ like never before.

God has used the crises in Lebanon to create new and unprecedented opportunities for the gospel—and Horizons is leveraging our robust network of indigenous staff, partner churches, and resources to take advantage of this historic time. We believe God has placed us in Lebanon for such a time as this.

Our gospel initiatives are supporting a spiritual transformation in Lebanon and the Middle East:

RELIEF

Lebanon Crisis Fund: bringing vital humanitarian aid and the gospel message to those devastated by the explosion and economic crisis.

TRAINING

Middle East Center Expansion: equipping indigenous believers with ministry skills to spread the gospel throughout the Muslim world.

DEVELOPMENT

Agricultural Development Project: purchasing agricultural land in Lebanon's Beqaa Valley to develop long-term sustainable food sources, generate employment, and create a missional community to reach the whole region.

By caring for the immediate needs of the suffering, the homeless, the refugees, we create inroads for the gospel. And through sustainable long-term development, we are building our way to a brighter future in Lebanon and beyond.

INVEST IN THE KINGDOM TODAY! \$100,000 MATCHING GRANT

You can be a part of what God is doing in the Middle East. Your gift toward Horizons International's 2020 Matching Grant will empower our indigenous staff members and partner churches to spread the gospel far and wide... **and every gift postmarked on or before December 31 will be matched dollar-for-dollar, up to \$100,000!**

GIVE A KINGDOM GIFT AND SUPPORT THE SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION OF LEBANON AND THE MIDDLE EAST TODAY!

horizonsinternational.org/2020match

“Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”

Romans 12:9-12



Stay up-to-date with Horizons
on Facebook and Instagram!

@HorizonsPDE  

To start a conversation, email us at connect@horizonsinternational.org

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main@horizonsinternational.org • horizonsinternational.org

YES! I WANT TO REACH THE WORLD FOR CHRIST!

Enclosed is my one-time monthly gift of \$ _____ to support
missionary/project: _____

Plus a one-time

monthly gift to the Lebanon Crisis Fund:



CLICK HERE TO GIVE