

Dear Family and Friends,

Joyful greetings to all our family and friends, from Asia Minor! We pray that your Thanksgiving holiday was blessed, as we have so much to be thankful for. Our hearts continue to burst with joy for the blessings the Lord bestows on us through this ministry, and yet, just as Paul, our hearts crumble as we long for the Lord to bring us home and reign as King here on earth and deliver us from sin completely. By God's grace, we have finally been able to launch our church Instagram (@AnkaraKilisesi). We invite you to follow us if you desire. We are still getting the hang of using this media; despite our lack, the Lord is using it to attract more people seeking after truth. We ask that you would strive together with us in prayer for this city, for the Battered Women's Center, and for the church to grow in its love for God and for one another. We ask also that you please pray for the Lord to continue to provide for our financial needs as we are a bit short of funds this past month. We are confident that He will work mightily and we will see another surge in lost souls turning to worship the one and only true and living God. That is truly something to be thankful for.

Our church continues to press on toward the goal for prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. As a body, we are continuing our study of the Old Testament, taking particular note of how it is a shadow of the things to come, or in reality, have come. As we work together searching His word, we have seen a noticeable increase in unity in the body, which is a great answer to our prayers. Our activities during the week continue to be a blessing to the community and a great way that the Lord is drawing people to Himself. Wednesdays and Fridays are devoted to women's outreach through art and hand crafts. There are two ladies in particular that we have been able to share with. One is a lovely woman who was abused by her husband for 40-plus years. Her name is Selam. She married when she was in her 20's and has two children. She is a college graduate and worked for many years as a sewing teacher in a girls' high-school. She worked full-time while raising her two boys and caring for her husband. All household duties fell to her and all child-rearing responsibilities fell to her. In addition to this, she was expected to have a 5 course meal ready for her husband every night and pleasure him whenever he desired. Her husband was addicted to alcohol and often times caused them to go into debt in order to pay for his habit. He beat her often and forbade her from having any time spent outside work or her house. The children grew up knowing this life as the norm and did not think anything of what their mother was going through. After over forty years of this life, the Lord delivered her from this situation by ending her husband's life. Fairy, Selma's younger sister, tells me, I was so angry with Selam for crying at the funeral! The man by no means deserved a single tear from my sister. Selam said, I knew nothing else in my life. My work was my haven, I loved to teach the girls and I enjoyed the other ladies that I taught with so much. I didn't think that I was worthy of love, but now that I am free, I am wondering, who is God and what is our purpose here on earth? I had the opportunity to show her in God's word that God is love. He loves us and desires a relationship with us. He has made a way to deliver us from our sin and to reconcile us to Himself, at which time He will make our joy complete! She said, I see something different in you and in what you say. It is different from what I believe; it has a purity, but I don't think I am worthy. We continue to work with her and pray that the Lord would open the eyes of her heart, that He would grant her repentance, and that she would come to know Christ as her savior and be able to partake in the pleasures of being the Bride of Christ!

Such great pleasures are found in this truth. So often we ask the rhetorical

question, is there any greater blessing than being given the right to be called a child of God? We are excited to share that, by God's grace, four dear new brothers and sisters are preparing for baptism this coming year and they continue to grow in their faith. Meanwhile, three other friends seem to be close to coming to faith. Please pray for our friends and that the truth found in our Christmas celebrations would prick their hearts. Pray for wisdom for us as we plan the Christmas outreach and party, as well as the Christmas service for the church. May the Lord give us creativity, wisdom, and energy. Also pray for our annual "Pray in the New Year" party. May it be a time of reflection on God's goodness and may His name and glory be lifted high above the heavens through our unity, prayers, and song.

Finally, as we grow in great strides in one area, the enemy seeks to destroy. Please pray for our dear brother who is struggling with temptation, he does not want to fall into sin, but the temptation is very powerful. Please pray that the Lord will give him strength and endurance to resist, that he would consider him who endured such hostility from sinners against himself, so that he won't grow weary and give up. (Heb 12:3).

May your holiday season be filled with the joy of knowing Christ and may the grace and peace of our Lord continually be upon you and your loved ones.

Joyfully serving for His glory,
Joe, Karyn and Angela Cavn

Praises and Prayers:

- Praise God for Angela who turned 14 this year and for Karyn who turned older than 25!!!
- Praise God for Sivel's desire to grow in her faith. Pray for peace as she is coming upon the anniversary of her late husband's sudden death.
- Pray for boldness and wisdom for Sivel to share Christ with her son and mother-in-law who are grieving and without hope.
- Pray for our Christmas outreaches and wisdom as we plan activities for 2019. May God give us good ideas that would attract just the right people who God has been calling.
- Pray for Diamond and Fairy who have heard a lot of God's word, but are afraid to accept the gift.
- Pray for Hatice who had a nightmare that caused her to turn away from seeking truth. May she feel the need to know what is truth.
- Pray for Safir and Candan who are currently seeking truth. May they come to know who is the one and only true God and thereby obtain eternal life!
- Pray for Candan to meditate on what he has heard and read in God's word while he is away on his soldier duty.
- Praise God for our new brother in Christ, Hale!!
- Pray for our new friend Aydan who is seeking after truth and has begun a study with Karyn once a week. May she seek Him with her whole heart. Please also pray for protection as her husband is not seeking and her son is scared because of her questioning the major belief.
- Pray for our new friends through instagram. May the Lord open the eyes of their hearts to know Him.
- Pray for energy, creativity, and the Lord's guidance as we plan regular activities at the center. May many people be drawn to Christ through these efforts.