

FREEMAN



Laura & Rich Freeman

TURKEY

LANGUAGES

Turkish
English

MINISTRY PRIORITY

Discipleship

BIRTHDAYS

Laura 5/18
Rich 12/21



LOCATION

Turkey



ABOUT

LAURA and RICH are associate development workers jointly appointed with International Ministries and their nonprofit organization, Turkish Connections International. They serve in the establishment of new churches in one of the least-reached countries on earth: Turkey. They work with Turkish pastors

and key Christian leaders to accomplish three goals: first, identifying new potential pastors who are well-trained and highly respected; second, gathering needed financial support for these pastors; and third, maintaining ongoing contact with each new church, engaging and nurturing the pastors. In order to connect Christians in the United States and Puerto Rico with God's work in this country, Laura and Rich provide a quarterly prayer newsletter and offer service projects in Turkey.

EMAIL: freeman@internationalministries.org



Strategy session with key Turkish leaders

“ MINISTRY STORY

North of Izmir on the Mediterranean coast of Turkey, lush acres grow the produce for which Anatolia has been famous since Roman times. Branching from the main highway, an asphalt road passes into the heart of a rich agricultural region. Soon the asphalt road ends, and a rutted dirt track leads to an unexpected sight. There, several dozen makeshift tents house more than a hundred people. This is one of the many spots throughout the land of Turkey where refugees from war-torn Syria are scratching out a meager living. Since 2007, the Turkish government has provided refugee camps near the border, where residents live in an endless limbo. Many have chosen to try their luck in various cities, hoping to find work, housing, and a new life. Most have found that dream elusive, like the families living in this field, worried this day about the oncoming winter. Today, though, a truck is heading down the dusty track, trailer in tow. Back again are Pastors D, R, and U, bringing the Mobile Hygiene Center that will park in the camp for a week. This outreach ministry provides laundry and shower facilities, food and water, clothing, boots and blankets, diapers and formula.

Three Mobile Hygiene Centers make their way from camp to camp, region by region, across the nation. This is one of the many creative ways that Turkish believers are spreading the love of Jesus to the Arabic-speaking immigrants who are their new neighbors. Out of this ministry of caring has come an Arab-language church in Izmir.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for wisdom as we partner with Arab-background Christian leaders in Turkey. There are possible political issues and friction.

Pray for God's provision as we seek to help financially with the needs of desperate refugee families.

Pray for guidance and discernment in all we do as government scrutiny of Christian activities is growing.

SCRIPTURE

“And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.”

Colossians 4:3 (NIV)