

# Evangelism Partners International



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DEAR FRIENDS AND FAMILY,

It is always a joy to share with you the reports we receive from around the world through our EPI missionaries. We are amazed that God has graciously invited us to partner with the Him, God of all creation, to reach the lost of the world. Mark 10:21 is a reminder of the enormity of His love. "Then looking at him, Jesus loved him..." He knew the heart of the young ruler yet, He loved him unconditionally. It is a compelling message even today. His love is unconditional and extends to all whom He has created. We go and come alongside those indigenous missionaries as the extension of His love.

We are excited to report to you some of the results of how God is at work extending His love through and to the EPI Missionaries and church planters. The following testimonies comes from **Mumtaz Mukhtar in Pakistan.**

My name is Saima. I have served five years as a school custodian (sweeper) in a village school near Faisalabad, Pakistan. The school is Muslim and every day the teachers would talk to me about converting to Islam. I called myself a Christian but their argument for Islam was so compelling. I knew if I converted to Islam it would be beneficial since my nation is a country created for the Islamic faith. I had decided to convert when Pastor Muhktar came to my village one evening to show the Jesus Film. I was mesmerized as I saw the life of Christ re-enacted on the screen. I was very drawn to this man Jesus. He was different from the men in my society who mistreated women. Jesus demonstrated a love for women, He treated them with such kindness and respect. Since I am illiterate the film profoundly touched my heart. I had a difficult time understanding how he could love me. I was humbled to think he was willing to suffer for me. The film stirred a longing in my heart to know him more personally. During the movie I felt as if he was looking right at me and extending a personal invitation for me to come to him. I stepped out of the crowd that night to say "yes" to Jesus. In that instance, my life was changed! When I returned to work the next day, the teachers picked up where they had left off in trying to convert me to Islam. I told them, "Jesus Christ paid the price for my sins and I will not embrace Islam." From the night I met Jesus, God has made me strong in faith. I now attend one of the house churches in my village and am growing in my faith. I am grateful that God sent Pastor Muhktar to my village and used the Jesus Film to touch my heart giving me an opportunity to know and love him.

My name is Pastor Mumtaz Muhktar. Recently I went to a village to do a Jesus Film show and plant a church. I spent the whole day visiting in the village. I was received warmly and felt encouraged to return the next day. Imagine my shock when I arrived to learn that a Muslim man had paid someone to accuse me of kidnapping a girl from the village. The Muslim man was a man of great influence within the community. Before the day was out and we could show the Jesus Film, I was arrested along with three more of our team members. I couldn't help but think of the illegal arrest of Jesus. The police pressured me to tell them where the kidnapped girl was. I told them I didn't know what they were talking about yet, they jailed me for two days. Our remaining team members began a vigilant prayer service, praying for our safety and release. They drew up a petition requesting our release. The police eventually allowed us to be bailed out. When I appeared before the judge there was no evidence against me only one man who claimed I had done this terrible deed. The judge was a wise man and saw through the attempt, he set me free. Sometimes it is life threatening to do the work we do in Pakistan. However, God has called us to it and He is our mighty warrior, the One who fights our battles. I am grateful for God's protection and covering. Please continue praying for us and helping us to reach every village in Pakistan with the gospel.

## SNAPSHOTS FROM 2017


We always enjoy an opportunity to visit one of the rural churches. This church had built its walls when the rain came and washed them away. Just our presence was an encouragement to them. Please pray for these brothers.

