

meet the BENSONS



TURKEY

PSEUDONYMS FOR REASONS OF SAFET



their story

Gregg grew up in western PA and studied architecture at a local university, while Debbie grew up on the east coast and received her degree in nursing from a New York college. They met and married in the Midwest, and then joined their missionary agency and headed for Turkey in 1987. Throughout their ministry, the Bensons have reached out through various media outlets, spreading the Good News of the Gospel however they can. Over the past 30 years, most of their time and energy has been focused on establishing and discipling a local church of Turkish believers who have a Muslim background. Now that Turkish leadership has been established in their church, the Bensons' role is mainly mentoring and training those leaders, and building up and "watering" the church in whatever ways are needed.

In 2009 Gregg became the director of a ministry that provides biblical "head-heart-hands" training to the Turkish Christian movement in Turkey's major cities. Since finishing a doctorate in comparative theology in 2015 he has had some opportunities to interact with Muslim scholars and hopes for more in the future. Debbie ministers to the many refugees who have flooded into Turkey as a result of the war in Syria. She also discipled women in their local church and reaches out to non-believers through friendship evangelism.

The Benson's two oldest children, a daughter and son, along with their spouses and young children, live and work in two neighboring countries. Their next son and his wife live in the US where he is finishing graduate school, and their youngest daughter is engaged to be married in 2020.

NOVEMBER 2022

PRAISE + + +

+ It has been a couple of months since George and Donna have transitioned to the U.S. from Turkey, after 35 years of faithful service. They feel like "hidden immigrants"...looking like your plain ole Americans yet inwardly feeling quite different and having to adjust to many things. They praise God for providing a wonderful apartment for them, near to their daughter and family, and for giving them a church family.

PRAYER >>>

> Pray for George and Donna as they settle back into American culture.

> Pray for George as he teaches two online courses, one for Emmaus Bible College and the other a masters course accredited by Trinity University. The master's level course requires a lot of preparation and the 7 students that are taking the course live all over the world, spanning 13 time zones!

> As well, pray for George as he will be developing the curriculum for two courses that he will be teaching in Turkey March-April 2023. Lord willing, George and Donna will travel back there for a couple of months. Pray for George as he preaches in different churches every week this month.

> Donna has made the decision not to get involved in any refugee ministry right now but rather to focus on helping with the grandkids who live in town. She is so grateful to have this opportunity. Pray for the time spent together, after so many years apart, to be an absolute blessing for the entire family.