

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 discipless 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.

MARCH 2023

PRAISE + + +

- + Praise the Lord for the safe travels He provided for Greg and Debbie from the USA to Turkey. May He continue to bless their stay in Turkey which will be until the end of April.
- + Thank the Lord for providing an office apartment provided by friends where Greg and Debbie will be staying while in Turkey.
- + Praise God for the manner He is using Greg as he has started his course at Hasat. Also praise the Lord as Greg and Debbie have enjoyed meeting up with various Turkish friends.
- + Thank the Lord for the special time which Greg and Debbie spent with their son and his family with a stopover in Amsterdam.

PRAYER > > >

- > Pray that the Lord directs refugee woman to use the resources provided by the refugee program. Last week the program was cancelled because there were not enough woman signing up to be seen. Pray that the Lord uses Debbie as a minister of His grace as she hopes to be there on Thursday when it opens.
- > Pray that the Lord provides Greg with stamina and wisdom as he has a busy schedule of preparation and teaching at Hasat. Pray also for the Lord to continue Greg's steadfastness as he prepares to speak three times on a Sunday as well at various churches.
- > Pray for Greg and Debbie as they feel the heaviness that hangs over the country following the devastating earthquake and then the recent flooding in the southeast area of the country. Praise the Lord that churches in Turkey continue to minister with relief work there. Continue to pray for this work and those who provide it.
- > Pray for continued unity, strength, and courage for those serving in the earthquake region.