

Monday, November 30, 2015

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. **John 3:16***

Mohamed\* was born into a Muslim family. His whole life he only knew the harsh realities of Islam. He ended up encountering the Word of God, and it changed him. John 3:16 and many other passages began to give him a new perspective on God--a God of love, a God who loved the world so much that He sent His only son into it, to save it.

Mohamed\* made the decision to put his faith in that God, to believe in Jesus Christ, that he might have the forgiveness of his sins and eternal life. His family, his friends, his government all came after him. His own brother (part of a radical Islamic group) gathered a group of friends to beat up Mohamed\*. They beat him mercilessly. His own father and mother disowned him. Yet in spite of all of this, Mohamed\* chooses to still love them, because he understands that at Christmas, the God of the universe humbled Himself to give those in rebellion against Him a second chance. God demonstrated His great love for us and now Mohamed\* follows that God, and loves those who would persecute him, beat him, and seek his death. He now knows a better story, a story of the God who so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, born in a manger, destined to be the Savior of the world. Mohamed\* believes in the story of Christmas.

*Thank You, Lord, for sending Jesus Christ. Thank You that we can celebrate Christmas freely. May the whole world know the story of Christmas and how much You love them. Amen.*

**Jordan Barry**

Missionary in the Middle East

\*Name changed for security reasons. This believer still faces intense persecution.