

Last visit with Global Hope:



Raed, Affrah, Andre and Andra

This family lived in Baghdad, where Raed worked in a factory assembling refrigerators – very busy, working hard and doing overtime. They had a large home there and owned a shop but the number of killings and kidnappings was frightening, so Raed sent Affrah and children to Mosul to stay with her family where they thought it was safer – with more Christians in the area. He stayed in Baghdad to sort out things there and planned to travel to meet up shortly. It took him

3 months to eventually find them again.

Before he could go, ISIS arrived in Mosul. Affrah was lucky to escape with her family to Erbil.

Initially they were in the Nineveh valley – sleeping in a school – hot and claustrophobic with 9 people living in a tiny space. They did not even have a fan. Some of the kids got sick.

When his wife and the family got to Erbil, they were there for a month and then got visas for Jordan. There were over 3,000 families in Erbil.

They are in a tiny space – there is no room for us all to sit and to take a photo with everyone it so we have to go outside. The rent is still 125 JD. They have had the first interview but are still awaiting the second, which has been postponed – but no new date given.

We ask for prayer requests: they ask for peace in the world first – then as an after thought for themselves too. Then they ask for blessing on the children. At this point Affrah busts out that her son Andre had a vision of Jesus. She tells the story that whilst at the school, she had taken him for a shower to cool him down. Afterwards as she was drying him with a towel she noticed he seemed to be swallowing. She asked him what he was doing. Andre said that Jesus had just come and given him a drink. 'Did you not see him mother?' He said. She asked Andre to describe him – he was dressed all in white with longish hair. Our translator is a little 'bemused' so interrupts Andre who is sitting on the floor absorbed toy cars and asks him if he saw Jesus and what he looked like. Andre confirms it. Affrah says she trusts that Jesus is holding her hand wherever they go and that not one step will be taken without him.