

“ The light shines through the darkness,
and the darkness can never extinguish it.”

JOHN 1:5

SHINE THROUGH DARKNESS

2007 Conference

Abundant Life's annual conference was held in the beginning of August. It was a tremendous success! Over 600 attendees and speakers from across the globe gathered to provide a strong message - God is on the move in the Middle East and we are His messengers. Groups from Syria and Jordan attended, despite the difficulties the Syrians had crossing the border into Lebanon. They were refreshed and encouraged in the meetings, and returned to their countries with much excitement about what God will do in these days. The church members were also encouraged. One servant in our church, Bassima, who is from Iraq, shared her story with me. She said that she has always felt weak, and did not fully realize the power of God in her life. However, at the conference, she began to see that she can do ALL things through Christ who gives her the strength she needs. She believes that God will use her to bring hope to Iraqis displaced throughout the Arab World.

We know that God will provide us strength to build on the momentum from this conference and bring the Gospel to the ends of the earth!



Conference Meeting

Youth Group & Kids Ministry

As I have become more familiar with Abundant Life Church, I have had additional opportunities to meet and serve the children and young adults of the church.

KIDS MINISTRY - It has been a great joy to get to know the children. They love having an American working with them! I believe that by investing my time and sharing the love of Jesus with the children that their lives will be changed. It is an honor to work with the children and I hope to continue to be a positive influence in their lives.

YOUTH GROUP - On August 25, I was the speaker at our weekly youth group meeting. I have been meeting with the group since arriving in Beirut, but this was my first chance to share a message. The youth were touched as I shared about “Fixing Your Eyes on Jesus”. As we look to Jesus, we seek His will not ours, we look to Him for guidance and not to the wisdom of the world and we do not see how big our problems and weaknesses are, but we see how big our God is. He is more than able to overcome even our biggest problems! The youth have an amazing vision to influence the nations of the Middle East and as we fix our eyes on Jesus, we will see Him do more than we could ever imagine!



Prayer Needs:

- *The Lord's protection*
- *Wisdom & Direction*
- *All needs are provided*
- *Becoming fluent in Arabic*
- *Adjusting to new life & culture*

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For more information on the church where I am serving, please visit:

www.abundantlifelebanon.com

Send support to:

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Make checks payable to
Westside Church.

List “Mary Beth Thoms” in the memo line.

Support received after 20th of the month will apply to the following month cycle.

I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

Philippians 1: 4-6