

## Turkey

Greg 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 were married in the Midwest, joined their mission agency in 1987, and headed for Turkey.

Throughout their time there, the Bensons have reached out through newspaper, radio, TV and now the Internet, and have followed up with these contacts, spreading the Good News of the Gospel however they can. They have spent most of the past 27 years discipling a local church of Turkish believers who have a Muslim background. Now that they have established Turkish leadership in the church, the Bensons' role has shifted to mentoring and training leaders and "watering" the church in whatever ways are needed.

In 2009 Greg became the director of a ministry that provides biblical "head-heart-hands" training to the Turkish Christian movement in Turkey's major cities. Debbie ministers to the many refugees who have flooded into Turkey as a result of the war in Syria. She also disciples women in their local church and reaches out to unbelievers through friendship evangelism.

Greg and Debbie have four grown children: Sarah, 29, lives in Jordan with her husband, Mike, and new baby girl, Shannon; Steve, 26, his wife, Maryanne, and their baby, Alex, live in Dubai; Max, 23, is in graduate school; and his sister Cara, 19, is a college student in the U.S.

## Praise

Praise God that He has protected Gregg and Debbie in Turkey and allowed their ministry to continue amidst all the political turmoil.

## Prayer

Turkey is coming up to a tense turning point soon, A referendum on changing the constitution to give the president sweeping powers is scheduled for April 16, which also happens to be Easter Sunday. Pray for Turkish followers of Christ as they seek to focus on Him during this period of instability and concern.

Gregg just finished a five week seminar surveying the second half of the NT, and is now trying to record this material on video for online training seminars. Pray for Gregg as he hopes to complete this before the end of February.

Pray for the Christians in Turkey, that God would protect them, that they would have wisdom but be bold in sharing the gospel.

The Bensons will leave for a six-week visit on Feb 28. Lord willing they will be at The Bible Chapel on March 5.

Pray for the Bensons' visit pn Sunday, March 5. Pray that many people, many new people, come to hear them. Pray that God would move on many hearts in our congregation to want to partner with Him in the work He is doing around the world through our ministry partners like the Bensons.