

meet the **BENSONS**



TURKEY

PSEUDONYMS FOR REASONS OF SAFETY



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 discipled 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 four 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 graduated from a US college in May 2018.

prayer requests

The Bensons praise God for new people coming to church and two professions of faith! Praise God that there is enthusiasm among young believers. Praise God the number of teachers has grown, a real answer to prayer!

Gregg and Debbie thank God for their sixth grandchild is due in May!

Pray for Gregg in his different roles:
-wisdom and help to lead well as an elder.
-as director of H-s-t Ministries (provides biblical teaching and training to the Turkish Christian movement). Three online courses are available. Pray that more Turkish seminar presenters will record their courses for online use. Pray for Gregg as he grades papers.

Pray for Gregg as he continues to record radio programs; 16 have been recorded, airing daily on the internet. Pray that God would speak to hearts.

Pray for open, teachable hearts from a recent training will yield much fruit.

Pray for Debbie as she works with the migrant/refugee Moms and Tots program and clothing center. Stories from the Bible are being shared with lively Arabic speaking puppets and afterwards the moms have discussion times. Pray that many women and children will be drawn to the Lord.

Pray for a ladies group that has been started on Sunday afternoons. Most weeks there have been 12 or so attending!

Pray for the Benson's daughter during her pregnancy. She is having a lot of nausea and has two other children.