

# Yousef & Cathy - Middle East/ North Africa

Yousef & Cathy have served faithfully in this region for many years and LifeSource continues to partner with them to impact this region.

Yousef trains leaders and supports church plants in 16 Arab - speaking countries across the MENA region (Middle East and North Africa) . He focuses on building the local church, raising up leaders and church planting. He has also been supporting local refugees through emergency relief. Last Christmas they distributed 1000 blankets and 1200 Christmas meals to bless those in need.



Cathy is the Founder and Director of Mishwar (The Journey) Counseling, an organisation serving Egypt and the broader Arab world. She leads a team of 25 professional counsellors in their work and advocates for social justice, ministering to persecuted Christians, those in grief and those who have experienced conflict in the region. She also equips and empowers other counsellors in the broader MENA region.



## Testimonies

*We praise the Lord for helping us train 1200 leaders in 2024 across the MENA region. We support and coach 12 church planters in 6 countries in the region that are extremely challenging and dangerous to minister.*

*In 2024, we stood by our 28 MBBs brothers and sisters when they were arrested and imprisoned for 2 months. We worked with human rights groups to defend them, and praise God they were released. Afterward, we held a debrief conference, where they joined us. They felt cared for and shared their testimonies, calling themselves history makers. We recorded their stories in prison and will publish them soon. We also recorded the first Christian album in their native language.*



*When in prison, they were asked if they were Christian and threatened with death for leaving Islam. Despite efforts to convince them to return to Islam, nothing could shake their faith. The authorities eventually released them with conditions: they could worship and serve privately. This was an incredible breakthrough as this was the first time the government recognised them as Christians.*

## Prayer Points

- Safety as they reach out to these nations, especially in North Africa.
- Open doors to train leaders in Western Africa.
- Provision for the financial needs to spread the gospel.
- Leaders facing persecution for their faith.
- Protection for Yousef, Cathy and the team who are ministering.



# Yousef & Kathy - MENA



## Praise Points:

- We had a big Easter celebration for 60 girls who are recovering from being abused. The celebration included food, fun presents and the word of God. More than 20 of them received Jesus into their lives and are moving forward in the healing process with supports from Kathy and her team.
- Yousef had a fruitful trip to an African country; baptising new believers, training 32 leaders, speaking at a family seminar, and starting shooting a video for the first Christian album in their local language. We also gathered and compiled testimonies to edit a new book.

## Prayer requests:

- Pray for the group to be able to edit the worship song. It will be the first ever for this language and an important step for them to be able to worship in their local dialect.
- 2- Micro-enterprise opportunities, protection, justice, and healing for girls who are on the journey to healing after abuse. That they would discover their new identity in Christ, joy and peace.
- Kathy; provision, open hearts for and her team of counsellors to be able to bring healing and restoration
- Yousef - protection and divine opportunities as he travels to provide leadership training and outreaches in region





# Yousef & Cathy - MENA

Yousef trains leaders and church plants in 16 Arab speaking countries in the MENA region (Middle East and North Africa region).

Cathy is the founder and Director of Mishwar (the journey) for Counseling in Egypt and the Arab world and has a team of 25 professional counselors working with her.



*Yousef shared; I was baptizing 12 new believers, each had a powerful and miraculous testimony. This is one of the testimonies, when I asked, 'Why do you want to get baptized?'*

*She answered, "last year I went to do the pilgrimage in Mecca and I was praying, asking God to come into to my life. When I was just about to throw a stone in the sacred hole, (symbolic of throwing our sins to be purified), Jesus appeared Himself to me as if He stopped me saying, "THIS IS NOT THE WAY , I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH and THE LIFE".*

*I asked Him, 'who are you?'*

*'I am Essa ( Jesus )'. He was shining like the sun and he was very beautiful.*

*I asked him, 'what do you want me to do?'*

*He said, 'Go back to your home and some one will visit you and he will tell you what to do.'*

*I went home immediately, the day after arriving back, one of my neighbours visited me and gave me a New Testament. I asked him why he visited, he answered, 'I felt I wanted to visit you and give you the message of life'.*

*I cried and shouted 'Lord Jesus I want to follow you, will you accept me?'" I felt transformed from Darkness to the Light of Jesus. So I am here today to ask you to baptize me. Praise the Lord .*

## **Prayer points:**

- 1- Prayer for our family to find a balance in ministry and family.
- 2- God's provision for the many needs
- 3- God's protection while going to these countries.

## **Yousef's goal in 2024**

To train 200 leaders in our region and plant 20 churches.

To find a Timothy who he can train and mentor.

## **Cathy's goal:**

To find a Timothy who she can train and mentor.

To find partners to share and support this ministry.