Adventures supporting students in Cyprus Alice Mitchell serving with IFES InterAction Europe in Cyprus amitchell572@gmail.com Psaron 18, Flat 302, Engomi 2408, Nicosia

## Dear Friends,

And I pray that you [may] know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:17-19

### Discipleship

There are lots of exciting things happening in the CyFES Nicosia group this semester!

On Friday evenings, students gather to study the Bible, looking at passages following a theme. February's theme is "love". The students are being trained in leading inductive Bible studies, and taking turns to lead. Those who have more experience are then invited to participate in training their fellow students, teaching them what they have learned!



Feb 2017

Ian teaching Roger\* and preparing to lead the Bible study together next week

An apologetics group meets on Saturdays, to discuss the tough questions about faith and Christianity, such as "what makes Jesus different from other religious leaders?" Pray for this as students learn how to give

"How can we know God?" "What does it mean to look at Jesus Christ? He is not here now." "The good news is that we have hope." "Is the Bible a book about how to live a good life?" Questions and comments from Renée as we go through Christianity explored.

reason of the hope there is in them or, for the ones who don't know Jesus yet, get to study the reliability of Christian faith.

Students who will be returning home at the end of the year are going through a Bible study series called "Think Home", which helps them reflect on their experience of studying abroad and prepare for going home and how to continue living out their faith in a new context.

On Saturday we received a phone call from Renée asking if she could meet us for lunch. This was an answer to prayer as for the past few weeks

# Praise and Prayer points

- Praise God for the groups meeting around God's word. Please pray for the students to grow in their relationship with Jesus and in maturity as they study the Bible.
- Please pray for the seekers we are meeting, in particular Ana and Renée. Pray that they will see who Jesus is and understand grace.
- Please pray for the students attending the training conferences in March and in April, that they will be equipped to share Jesus and serve Him.
- Please pray with Gabi and I as we consider the possibility of staying longer in Cyprus to continue supporting building the student movement here.

we have not been able to meet with her because she has been really busy! She has lots of questions. Please pray that we can meet with her regularly and that she will have a true understanding of grace.

### Teaching and training

Gabi and I continue to meet with the student leadership once a month to plan the activities of the group in terms of relevant Bible teaching, outreach, community building, etc. We also meet with them individually to coach them in their responsibilities and disciple them in their walk with the Lord and in serving the group. The next planning meeting is this Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> Feb.



The CYFES board meeting to pray for the next steps of student ministry here in Cyprus.

In addition to training in leading Bible studies, Gabi and I are preparing in-depth teaching for students on various topics, such as prayer and relational evangelism.

This semester there are two international IFES conferences that students from CYFES will be attending for training/vision:

- A leadership training conference in Portugal, 3-5 March.
- An evangelism training conference, Presence17, in Germany, 13-18 April.

Some of the students were not able to attend the conference at Easter, due to prior commitments, so we invited them to attend the national IFES Portugal training.

#### Looking ahead

Gabi and I will go to Portugal a week earlier (20 Feb to 6 Mar) to visit local churches and supporters, raise funds, and participate in the student conference. This is much cheaper to do in low season, and we have the bonus of taking students to receive this training.

Yesterday we meet with the board for fellowship and prayer and to give ministry updates. It was really encouraging because it was visible they were taking on a more proactive role in planning governance aspects for the future as well as asking how they could support us better. We had a good intercession time for God's work and got to know what are they up to for the next few months. They are meeting tomorrow for their second meeting as a board. Please pray for this!

Every blessing,

### Alice

# Giving opportunities

These conferences are a great opportunity for these students to continue to grow in their vision of mission and in sharing Jesus with their friends!

Would you consider partnering with us to send these students to the conferences by contributing towards the costs of their flights and conference fees?

The flights are around 250€ and conference fee 75€ for each student. We are taking in between 5 to 10 students in between the two conferences.

This work relies on your donations. If you would like to contribute to this ministry, you can send a donation through Stewardship by going to www.give.net/amitchell572, or please contact me for other ways to send it.