

AND THE MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

LEBANON

OTHERS SEE CRISIS. WE SEE OPPORTUNITY



2023 - 2024
YOUR IMPACT REPORT & UPDATE

Matt & Julie
Hattabaugh



to reach unreached people in the MENA region
We Train leaders & church planters

CONTENT



01

The Gospel in the Middle East

“A *great door for effective work has opened to me*” (1 Cor. 16:9, NIV).

An open door is what we have found in Lebanon. Though many see obstacles in the Middle East, we see great opportunities to reach unreached people throughout MENA.

PAGE 4

02

Pam's Story

Pam's story is like many in the Middle East. Searching for truth, Pam gave her life to Christ, connected with us and *GoChurch Beirut*.

Pam has learned the power of *Koinonia* and now works to bring the next generation into a living relationship with Jesus.

PAGE 8

03

We Are ABLE

Jesus has made us Able. This Gospel truth inspired Lara to press into the plan of God for her life. Lara discovered she is Able and has committed to help others know they are Able, too!

Check out *YOUR IMPACT* in Lebanon.

PAGE 10

04

HUBS in Beirut

HUBS are a way we can increase the reach of *GoChurch Beirut* in Lebanon by creating spaces where families gather, experience relationships and fun, and can be ministered to in Grow Groups, Alphas, and Relate Groups for all ages!

PAGE 14



Matt & Julie Hattabaugh live in Beirut, Lebanon with their 2 children (and dog) as full-time independent missionaries training leaders and church planters.



05	06	07	08
We Work in Teams	Training Leaders	Projects & Opportunities	Church Planting Family
<p>Accomplishing the plan of God in Lebanon is not for one person alone; this plan will be performed in teams.</p> <p>Leaders need help, and vision requires a team to accomplish. The Hattabaughs are empowering others to take the Gospel message to the MENA region.</p>	<p>Partnering with the Hattabaughs helps take the Gospel message into the MENA region by developing leaders and training church planters.</p> <p>This is a strategic endeavor focusing on church planting throughout the 22 Middle Eastern and North African nations.</p>	<p>Jesus told <i>us</i> to Go into all the world (Mark 16:15).</p> <p>Take a moment to consider how <i>YOU</i> can apply the supply God has put in <i>YOU</i> to do what Jesus said in the MENA region. When all the church does its part, we can see the completion of the Great Commission!</p>	<p>Youssef and his family have a passion for seeing their community have an encounter with the love of Christ.</p> <p>Youssef and his 16-year-old daughter, Pheobe, committed to 2-years of ministry training so that they can be equipped for the work of the ministry!</p>
PAGE 19	PAGE 22	PAGE 26	PAGE 30



01 The Gospel in the Middle East

By: Julie Hattabaugh

Christianity's deep roots in the Middle East have often sprouted amidst hardship. For 2,000 years, faithful servants of Christ have spread gospel seeds across this region that germinate even in difficult seasons. That is why Paul's message in 1 Corinthians 16:9 is vital: *"A great door for effective work has opened to me."* We have found This open door in Lebanon and the MENA region. Though many see obstacles in the Middle East, we see great opportunities to reach God's beloved children!

In Lebanon, we marvel at new growth

emerging from the past efforts of laborers who have gone before us. They have prepared the ground, and now we find open doors for ministry and hunger for truth that propels us onward. The sparks of faith are catching flame. Our team sees what Paul described in Corinthians: plentiful opportunities amidst opposition.

We train leaders and church planters to reach the unreached—to go where many will not, to be Jesus' hands and feet to a lost world. Their passion ignites our own. As Paul wrote in Romans 10:14-15, *"How can they hear without someone preaching? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent?"* We GO to share this good news. The main goal is to get the WORD of God out for all to hear.

Middle Eastern Christianity persists. Disciples through the centuries have faithfully nurtured the flame...

Recently, Elia joined the team. He had an encounter with the Love of Christ at GoChurch, a groups-centered church in Beirut. Elia decided that He wanted to Know Jesus more! That was the beginning of a ripple effect. Elia's life has changed, and now he is helping others have a life-changing experience. One believer can impact families, villages, regions, and nations! Many, like Elia, but found the truth of the Gospel message is God's love. That is the power of the Good News! It is the truth!

Some may see stony soil in the Middle East, but God's love takes root in willing hearts. It is the Gospel message that will change the world. We simply testify of what Jesus has done. Our family will remain in Lebanon to train leaders and church planters.



We train leaders and church planters to reach the unreached — to GO where others will not

Though persecution exists, Middle Eastern Christianity is thriving. Disciples through the centuries have faithfully nurtured the flame when given but a spark. They persevered with resilience, comforting others with Christ's love amid hostility. We draw inspiration from their tenacity to continue God's work now.

You are the key that is unlocking seemingly closed doors in this region. Others need the hope we carry. Join us in spreading the fire of the Gospel

truth that cannot be quenched. Faith under fire will prevail.

1 Corinthians 16:9 Paul declares - *I will stay in Ephesus because a great door of effective work has opened to me.*

When given but a spark of hope, disciples through the centuries have faithfully nurtured the flame.

Luke 10:2 *Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send*

HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO PREACH THE GOSPEL! *Romans 10:15*

forth laborers into his harvest.

Friends, over the years, there have been wars and rumors of wars; these are all signs pointing to the coming of our Lord Jesus. Jesus said, when we see these things happening, "see to it that you are not alarmed" (Matthew 24:6, NIV). Instead, we are to focus on getting the Gospel to all nations (Matthew 24:14).

It is with this focus in mind that I write this today. Jesus gave us the command

to GO. Consider how the disciples went out: they were sent.

Romans 10:13-15 says, "*ALL who call on the name of the Lord will be saved, How can they call on one they don't believe? How can they call on one they have not heard of? How can they hear without someone preaching to them? How can they preach unless they are SENT? How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Gospel!!!!*"

God loved the world so much that He



CALLED TO GO

What is your part in HIS
GREAT COMMISSION?





PRAY | SEND | SERVE - take part in Christ's command to GO everywhere and TELL everyone the Good News.



made His Son a missionary. Jesus the Sent One, He came, he made the way so that ALL who call on His name will be saved. He made the way for the Good News to GO. But it cannot Go unless we GO. 2 Corinthians 5:20 call us *Christ's Ambassadors*. We are His representatives on the earth. He sent Jesus to create the way back to Him! It is such good news! Now, we have to tell others.

You are the bridge to someone's opportunity to say YES to Jesus. The first step is to identify our our place in God's GO plan. What does Go mean?

Our family has decided to give our lives as an offering to the call. Not everyone is called to relocate geographically, but we can all take part in *GOing*.

We are honored to be YOUR representative (2 Corinthians 5:20) to the nations. As you pray, serve, and send, I challenge you to ask the Lord what He would have YOU do. You are the key to unlocking the Middle East and the answer to someone's prayers.

David says in 1 Samuel 30:24, "*The share of the man who stayed with the supplies is to be the same as that of him who went down to the battle. All will share alike.*"

You can pray. Praying puts you in connection with the heart of God, and the Bible says that the prayers of a righteous person make great power available. (James 5:16)

You can send a Missionary on your behalf if you are not called to live cross-culturally. Paul shares about the church in Phillipi, supporting his missionary travels (Philippians 4: 15-16).

You can Serve. We can see that many supported the efforts of the Sent-out ones in the Gospel, from opening homes to hosting them on their journey to serving and managing practical ministry efforts.

Friends, this is God's harvest; we are the reapers. If we put our hands on the plow together, we will SEE it come to pass; in Daniel 11:32, the people that do know their God shall be strong and do exploits.

What is your part? Your part is to PRAY and ask the Lord what He would have you do. How would He have you go? Then, take a step of faith and do it!

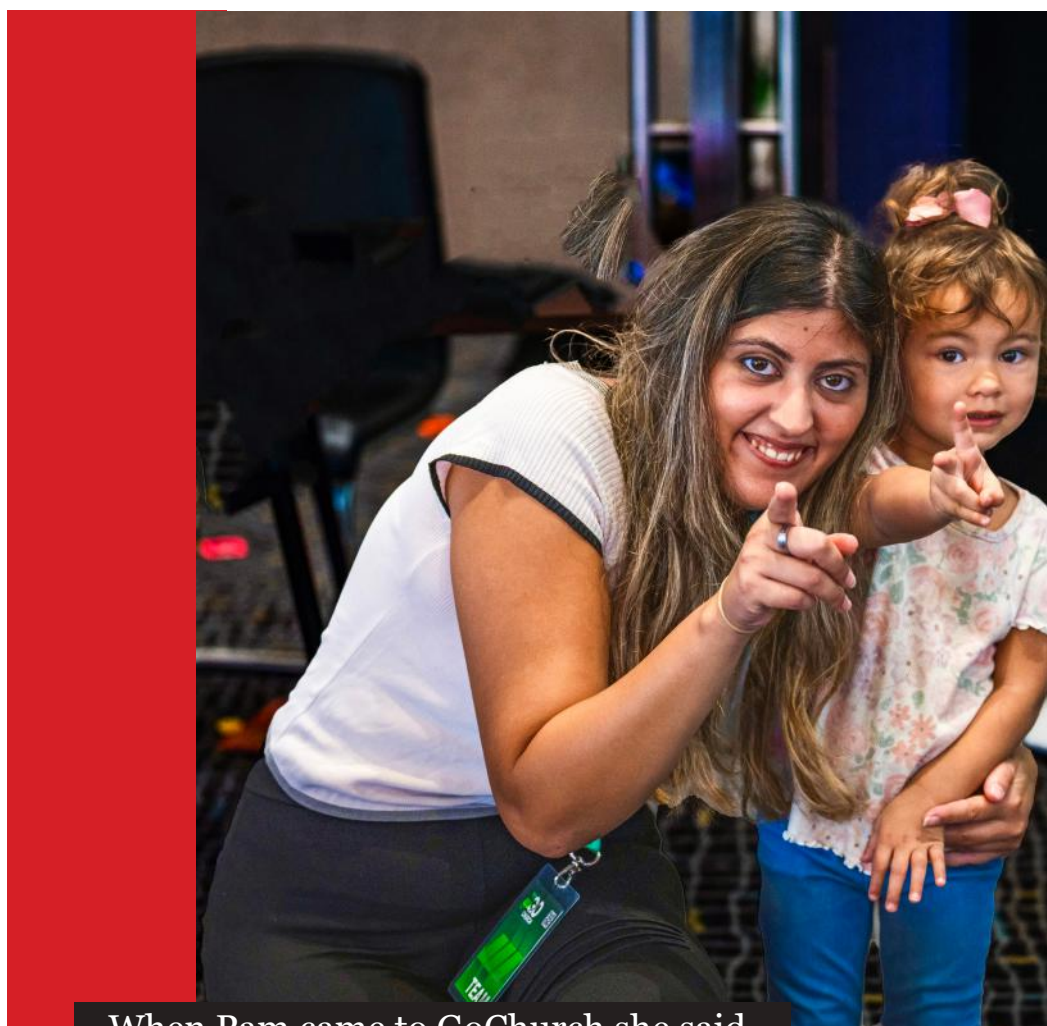
PAMELA'S STORY

By: Julie Hattabaugh

Let me introduce you to Pamela. This amazing young woman came to GoChurch in the beginning of 2022. From the moment we met her, we knew there was a gift from the Lord inside of her that we could help unwrap. Pamela has the remarkable ability to see possibility in any situation, and she doesn't quit.

When she joined the GoChurch team, she quickly revealed the grace she carries for kids ministry. Pamela loves to see the next generations have an encounter with the Love of God, Grow in His Love, and then Go with His Love to their friends and family.

Pamela realized quickly that through children, you can impact the home - if you can get kids excited about church, they will bring their parents to join. Pamela shared a recent testimony that when she came to GoChurch, she was looking for a church, but she found more than that; she found her home. She said, "I was looking for someone to help me; now I am looking for others to help." We rejoice because she desires



When Pam came to GoChurch she said,

*"I was looking for someone to help me; now I
am looking for others to help."*

Pam's heart beats with compassion to see people experience the unconditional love of Christ that has transformed her life.



to see the Word of God preached in Lebanon.

Soon after Pam joined our team, she entered an online training program with Rev. Tom & Kathy Toney called KUEST (www.kuest.org). This nine-month intensive training focuses on training workers to develop kids as church servant leaders. Pamela excelled in this program and has helped us implement these principles in GoChurch Beirut.

We are blessed to have Pamela as part of our church community. Her passion for bringing the gospel to children and families is inspiring. She radiates authenticity, joy, and purpose that draws people to ask what the source of her light is and how they can have the same experience. Pamela's authentic love for people shines through in her patient, joyful service in our kids' programs. She is an invaluable team member who inspires excellence in others.

Pamela has now taken another step in her journey of development. She has joined the Practical Ministry training school with 88 other students to be

trained for full-time ministry. She is gifted in envisioning what could be and rallying others toward a God-glorifying vision.

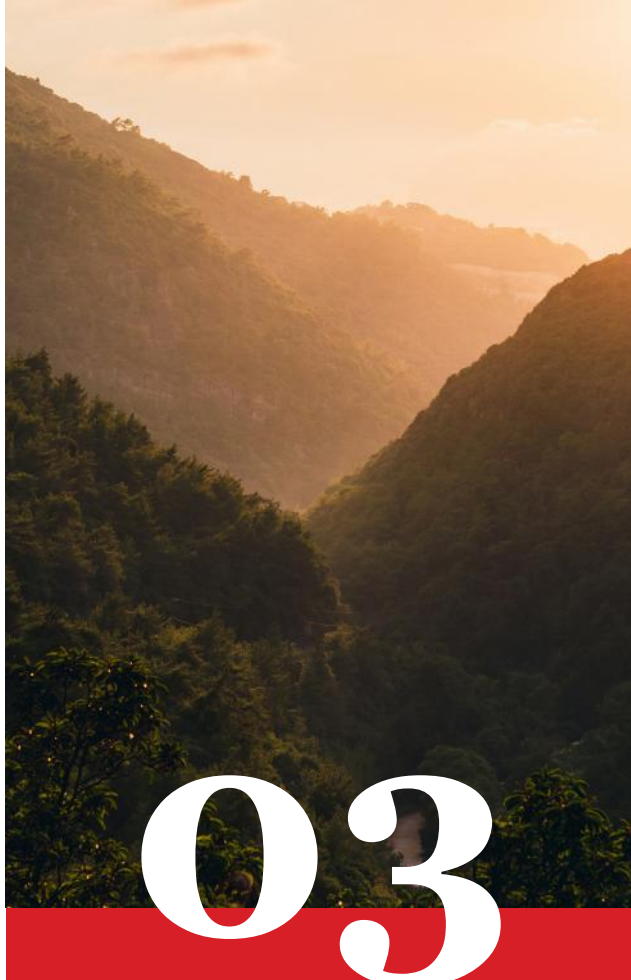
We eagerly anticipate how God will continue to give and empower Pamela for ministry as she steps into formal training. Our entire leadership team is committed to championing the calling of her life. Her growth fuels our growth as we come alongside her to provide counsel, teaching opportunities, and platforms to develop her gift.

We stand with her in believing in a mighty move of God's Spirit across Lebanon. Her heart beats with compassion to see people experience the unconditional love of Christ that has transformed her life. Pamela is excited about the days ahead because she has seen how her life has increased after she decided to follow Jesus.

We look forward to seeing all God has in store for her ministry career. We are committed to supporting Pamela with community, encouragement, and practical help. Her dedication motivates our congregation to reach farther for God's Kingdom.

Pamela has completed KUEST ministry training and now leads GoKids at GoChurch Beirut.

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. (2 Cor. 9:8, NKJV)



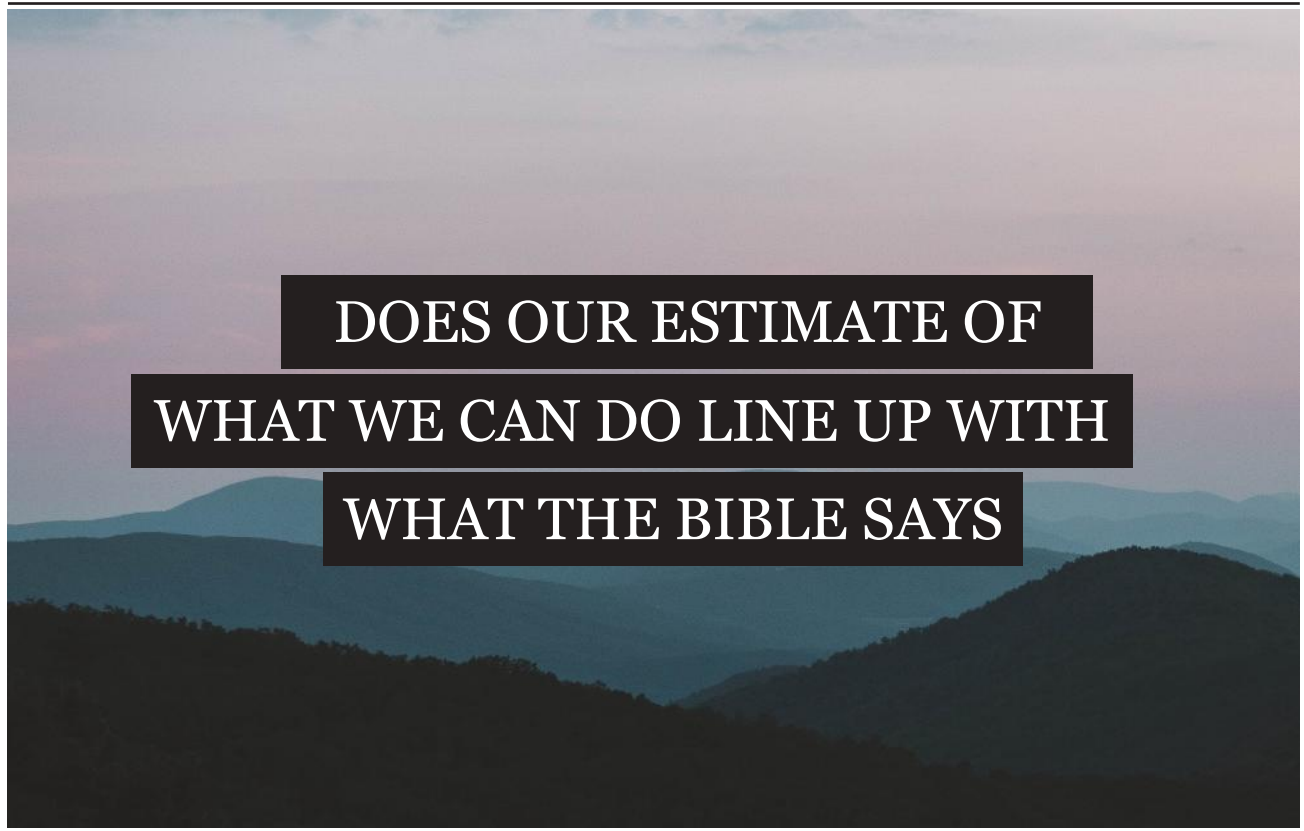
ABLE

GoChurch Beirut

A groups-centered church based in Beirut, Lebanon and part of a family of churches working together to reach the world.

Ability – what is that? Paul says in Ephesians 3:20, “*Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.*” This is our ability; it is the power that is at work within us; why? Because it is the

power of God! This ability is critical in following God’s plan for our life because He calls us to do more than we can do on our own (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). The Apostle Paul affirmed, “*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me*” (Philippians 4:13,



NKJV). The blood of Jesus seals our divine covenant, confirming our ability to fulfill God's will (Hebrews 9:14, NKJV). This declaration is guaranteed by the Holy Spirit, who equips us with wisdom and power (Acts 1:8, NKJV).

Numbers 13 shows the tension between faith and self-imposed ability limitations. Despite God's assurance, "*Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the children of Israel*" (Numbers 13:2, NKJV), the Israelites declared their inability to conquer Canaan. This illustrates the power of assumptions in shaping our reality. Their "yes, but" mentality originated from limited perspectives, turning divine opportunities into human

obstacles. In contrast, the miracle at Cana in John 2 demonstrates that obedience to act like God's Word is true, even when it seems impossible, unlocks miracle-working power (John 2:5, NKJV).

The Israelites' unwillingness to enter the Promised Land was not a mere lapse in judgment but a manifestation of an "*evil heart of unbelief*" (Hebrews 3:12, NKJV). They were precisely where God wanted them to be. Yet, they kept themselves out with their own doubting words, fulfilling the scriptural warning that "*death and life are in the power of the tongue*" (Proverbs 18:21, NKJV).

Considering the truth of Numbers 13 let's ask a question. Do our estimates of what is possible and what we can do agree with what God says about us? Are there lands that the Lord has called you to possess? Naturally, you cannot accomplish what the Lord has put before you by yourself. However, Malachi 3:13-15 warns that speaking against what God said we can do in Him, hinders our spiritual growth and His ABILITY working through us. We are called to be "*the light of the world*" (Matthew 5:14, NKJV), and to fulfill this calling, we must possess all that God has promised us - and do all He has called us to do. *We are more than ABLE because ABLE lives inside us* (1 John 4:4).



Lara realized that she was ABLE because God has made her well ABLE to do all that He has called her to do.

When we met Lara in 2019, she did not think she was able — she did not know of the great power made available to her. At first, she would come in but then drift back out of our gatherings. The GoChurch leadership team committed to praying for Lara, specifically that she would get in her place and make God the center of her life. We earnestly desired to see Lara connected and part of a thriving church. We could see the ability in Lara, and our heart was for Lara to have the life-changing encounter that only comes when connected to the heart of God.

One day, Lara came to our Big Sunday Gathering and just *clicked*. She began asking where she could serve and how she could help; from that day to now, Lara has gone from sitting on the sidelines watching God work in the lives of others to seeing Him move in her life.

Lara is now a committed part of our serve teams in GoChurch Beirut. She actively participates in our online podcasts for GoChurch. She serves as a volunteer with the MENA office team, and she is one of 78 students who have committed two years to receive practical ministry training from the Bible school YOU launched in Lebanon!

When asked where she can see herself in 10 years, she said without hesitation that she will be a practical ministry training school teacher! This is a life change. This is why YOU are here in Lebanon. In the MENA region, we are surrounded by people just like Lara, those who don't know the ability within them until someone comes and unlocks it; you are the key to reaching others just like Lara!

YOUR IMPACT

— THE STORY OF ONE —

By: Gilbert Massaad



Gilbert & Ciela are key leaders at GoChurch Beirut.

Before I met the Hattabaugh's in 2018 I had been a Christian for 2 years and I was looking for a church. I met them during one of the Alpha (www.alpha.org) events that GoChurch Beirut was running in its early days and felt an instant connection. We had an instant connection; I was drawn to the love and genuine care I received from them.

Soon after, they invited me to join some of their *Project Lebanon team meetings*. As soon as I went to the first one, I had a sense in my heart that I was looking for a church, but I knew that the Lord wanted me to help build this one!

Years on, I have the privilege of having the Hattabaugh's not only as my pastors and spiritual elders, but also spiritual family and forever friends. They helped me grow from being a believer in my mind to being a believer in my

walk in all areas of my life. They have been there for me without fail. I am so thankful that they officiated my wedding to my wonderful wife Ciela.

As my pastors, they are examples of honour, integrity and faith. Their leadership is a model of what Jesus intended - they help me stir up the gifts that God has placed in me, and have always lifted me up on their shoulders into my place of service. Jesus is the cornerstone, and He placed stones in His building which carry others into their place. They empowered me to step into places of service that I never imagined that I would find myself in.

I count it a blessing to be able to express my gratitude to the Hattabaugh family here, and to you for partnering in what they have done to change my life.

By: Krystal Baddour

During a challenging time of personal turmoil I met the Hattabaughs. When I first walked into a GoChurch meeting, I had a profound sense of peace which I never knew before. God spoke to my heart. I felt such a strong conviction that I should stay in Lebanon and be part of this church.

Staying wasn't just about being in Lebanon physically; it was realizing that my true freedom and place was in Jesus. GoChurch was a place which helped me to break free from the constraints and drama of my job, limitations, and messy family dynamics. I was set free and discovered that true freedom

came from my relationship with Jesus, — not external factors. My sense of belonging and fulfillment was no longer tied to circumstances but was now rooted in a deep connection with Jesus.

The Hattabaughs, have been MVPs throughout my journey of transformation. They have consistently prayed for me and with me, and have been a support not just to me but also to my parents. Thanks to them, my parents received the message of Jesus, and this completely changed our lives.

You — the people that sent the Hattabaughs — have helped me discover the gifts God had placed within me. Your prayers and support, and the love of Jesus didn't just help me; you have transformed my whole family.

I thank the Hattabaughs for being more than pastors — they are family, mentors, and game-changers.



Krystal leads GoChurch Beirut outreach teams sharing Jesus in Lebanon.



BEIRUT HUBS

GoChurch Beirut is a groups-centered church. That means our weekly meetings happen in decentralized groups. HUBS help groups grow...

Members of our team rebranded their family shop in Beirut as GoCafe in January 2023 to host GoChurch groups.

GO CHURCH CAFE

CREATING SPACES WHERE RELATIONSHIPS CAN GROW



By: Matt Hattabaugh

In 2016, I imagined using a café in Beirut to host discipleship conversations and group meetings. It is part of the culture to linger over coffee in conversation. There is no shortage of cafés in Lebanon. In 2018, we hosted the first GoChurch outreach in a Starbucks.

What we have found, however, is that these spaces are designed for adults and limit family involvement. Further, many public areas are unsuited for deeper Christ-centered conversations because of the natural distractions common in noisy restaurants.

We have had limited success in hosting

group meetings in homes. What we have learned, is that social and ethnic boundaries prevent some people from comfortably meeting together. For example, a Lebanese from a Westernized secular family would find it difficult to visit the home of a person from an Islamic background. The same is true of economic and social strata. House visits tend to be within an individual's social circle.

We must find ways to establish a thriving church-planting movement in the Arab world. Churches must adopt strategies that fulfill their mission and



We see HUBS in Beirut where families can gather and grow together in the love and knowledge of who they are in Christ.

serve people in their community.

GoChurch Beirut was launched in April 2022 so that everyone can experience the unconditional love of God, grow in His love, and Go with His love to their world. The church is built upon the principles of the Church in Acts to bring people together and apply the teachings of the Bible in their daily lives and families.

We are a group-centered church. That means we meet weekly in groups and then twice monthly in large gatherings. That emphasizes the importance of group participation and is helping GoChurch build a strong community that supports discipleship.

We see an opportunity to create HUBS in Beirut – physical locations supporting group development while providing services not typically available in private homes or other public spaces.

Many Lebanese households lack consistent electricity or have reliable internet connections. Most families with young children live in cramped



Example HUBS cafe area

Sharing a bite is a great way to build community and create opportunity for encounters with the love of Jesus.

apartments, and Lebanon has limited public play spaces.

We see GoChurch Beirut HUBS as a place with a coffee bar, snack café, secure children's play area, and a study center for homework assistance, among other amenities. We aim to create a space that families can integrate into their weekly routines. We believe this will promote group growth, address community needs, and facilitate individual discipleship for all age groups.

These HUBS serve as multifaceted spaces for communal interaction and help overcome issues such as inconsistent electricity, limited internet connection, and scarce public play spaces in the community. Establishing these HUBS will further promote the growth of new groups, meet community needs, and foster individual discipleship across all age groups.

As GoChurch Beirut continues to expand, its integrative strategy that combines spiritual engagement, community outreach, and leadership development holds great promise for a thriving, influential, and mission-oriented congregation. The church's strategic insights and practical response to local challenges can serve as a model for other church planters seeking a balanced and effective strategy aligned with their mission and community's needs.



Example HUBS Kid's area

GoChurch HUBS in Beirut will be more than a place to hang out, but where families can GROW together.

HUBS are centralized facilities that support group development by providing services not always available in homes or other public spaces...

We see HUBS throughout Beirut facilitating new relationships with people of all ages and backgrounds. Moms can bring young children to a GoChurch HUB during the day. Her children can play with other kids while she meets with a group of other moms at the café. After school, kids can come for tutoring or homework with stable power and an internet connection.

Scheduled around these community times, GoChurch groups like Alpha (www.alpha.org) or our Basics course can help find Christ and learn how to

practically apply the truth of the Bible in their life.

At the center of GoChurch life are what we call Grow Groups. We see HUBS helping us develop new Grow Groups by providing an open space where people from any background and age can come. Groups for kids, youth, young professionals, parents, and seniors can all meet at different times in GoChurch HUBS. This flexibility and accessibility answer a vital need we find in Beirut.

After meeting with local business leaders and gathering facts, we believe that between 300 - 500 people of all ages could visit each HUBS location throughout Beirut. Based on what we have learned so far, we believe Beirut could support 5 locations alone - with other locations supporting groups development in neighboring cities.

How You Can Help

You know that the Gospel of Jesus can change the lives of people. GoChurch Beirut is a tool Jesus can use to reach Lebanon and beyond. It can also serve new church-planting families a model they can use to reach the Arab world. They need to see it operating – and you can help show them.

Help us build the first GoChurch Beirut HUB. You can pray that we have wisdom in choosing the right location, favor with the permits and registration, and the best deals for both property, furnishing, and teams.

You can also take part in creating a HUB by giving a financial gift. Learn more at www.hattabaughfamily.org/hubs.

Julie with GoKids celebrating at a BIG SUNDAY Gathering.

Lebanese people are vibrant and fun-loving. We love gathering families and sharing the Good News of Jesus with the precious people that call Beirut home.





Krystal & Pamela at a GoChurch Beirut Connect Event

05

By: Matt Hattabaugh

- WE - WORK IN TEAMS

The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, “*Make every effort to come to me soon*” (2 Timothy 4:9, NASB). While it is clear that it is a literal request to a specific individual, there is a principle we can also learn from. Leaders need help, and vision requires a team to accomplish.

I visited Beirut in 2015 for the first time. Two years later, as a family, we moved to spearhead a new mission headquarters. Our hearts are set on fulfilling the Great Commission as commanded by Jesus Christ in Mark 15:16 and Matthew 28:19. Since our move in 2017, we have worked to

**Our mission is a strategic endeavor.
With a focus on training leaders and
church planters across 22 Middle
Eastern and North African nations**

Since moving to Beirut in 2017 the
Hattabaughs have celebrated more than 2000
first time decisions for Jesus ...



In the 22 nations that make up the Middle East & North Africa (MENA) region, 99% of the 500 million people have not yet heard the Gospel of Jesus.



Ciela helping Connect with visitors at GoChurch Beirut.

We prioritize opportunities for our team to put the New Testament truth they receive into practice.

cultural and geographical boundaries. By joining hands with us, you become part of a team that strives to make disciples of all nations.

The time to act is now. The MENA region urgently needs the Gospel, and you have a unique opportunity to be part of this transformative mission. We welcome you to join us in this journey of faith and love as we work to fulfill the command of Christ - to GO everywhere and tell everyone.

ignite a movement to reach 500 million unreached people in the Middle East and North Africa.

Our mission is not merely a calling but a strategic endeavor. With a focus on training leaders and church planters across 22 Middle Eastern and North African nations, we have celebrated more than 2,500 decisions for Christ, three church plants, and over 5 million views of our monthly online broadcast. One example that stands out is the story of a young man in Lebanon who dedicated his life to Christ through our outreach and is now leading a thriving church community.

We aim to train leaders and church planters, as we believe in the rapid spread of the Message of Jesus throughout the Arab-speaking world. Our training program includes intensive workshops, mentorship, and hands-on experience in church planting. We utilize resources such as in-person meetings, online courses, books, and collaboration with local

churches to equip leaders with the skills they need to make a lasting impact. To make this a reality, we want to build a team of 500 partners who give, serve, and pray.

My wife and I lead the team, focusing on leadership and team development. I graduated from RHEMA Bible Training College and earned a Bachelor's degree in Organizational Leadership from Oklahoma Wesleyan University. Julie, a graduate of RHEMA Bible Training College and RHEMA's School of World Missions, has also earned her Master's Degree in Strategic Leadership from Oklahoma Wesleyan. Together, we lead GoChurch Beirut, focusing on nurturing leaders and deploying missionaries to GO throughout the Middle East and North Africa.

Our dedication to teamwork and leadership development reflects a model of Christian leadership we see in Biblical examples. Our commitment to working together in love and humility fosters a community that transcends

500 Strong

Your giving, whether through prayer, financial support, or active participation, can make a real difference in people's lives. Regular monthly support or project giving helps us meet our goal of 500 Strong and see the Gospel spread rapidly throughout MENA (2 Thessalonians 3:1).

Our collaborative approach embodies Christian unity and offers an expression for others to engage in this Great Commission. By working together as a team, we can achieve the extraordinary task of spreading the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

Let's work together to reach the unreached people who call the Middle East and North Africa home. Join us in this mission, and be part of the change.

TRAINING LEADERS

By: Matt Hattabaugh

A man with short dark hair and a beard, wearing a dark blue shirt, is smiling and pointing his right index finger towards the word "STEP" in the text "NEXT STEP". The background is a green and brown mountain landscape.

NEXT STEP

WE TRAIN LEADERS AND CHURCH

PLANTERS TO REACH THE UNREACHED



One thing we have learned living in the Middle East is the work Jesus is doing here is bigger than what one person can do alone...

In 2015, I visited Beirut for the first time with a short-term mission team. That nine-day trip began a journey that would profoundly redefine my life and the lives of my family. It was the beginning of a mission to serve the people of Lebanon and the broader Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

Lebanon's unique blend of cultural diversity and religious openness presented an extraordinary opportunity for our Christian ministry. Lebanon is the only country in the MENA region where preaching the Gospel is free and open. The liberty in Lebanon provides a unique space we see as an opportunity to train leaders and church planters to take the Gospel to places we, as Americans, cannot.

Our limitation is more than security or language. Culture can act like a wall that limits communication and connection. What makes this nation key is the disproportionately sizeable Lebanese diaspora, creating an openness we can use to disciple and envision spiritual leaders.

We recognize the strategic importance of Lebanon as a training ground for leaders across the MENA region. These leaders, equipped with the message of the Gospel, practical leadership skills, and an understanding of their cultural contexts, are the key to unlocking the

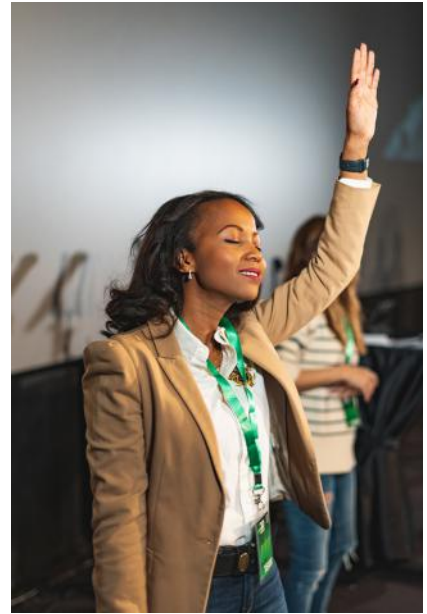
Arab world and fostering growth in life-giving churches.

The impact of the message of Jesus we have witnessed in Lebanon extends far beyond maps' geographical and political borders. People like Gilbert and others are being transformed by applying the truth of God's Word. They are now sharing their faith and developing leadership skills to positively influence their community.

Recently, Gilbert shared his testimony with a church in Beirut. He explained that after committing to Jesus, natural things in his personal life, his family's business, and his health had turned around for good. Then he said something that touched me. Gilbert said, "...my whole family is born again."

The impact of the Gospel of Christ does not end with the people we touch. Instead, it sparks a movement that changes families, nations, and the world.

Our approach in Lebanon draws upon proven leadership training models carefully adapted to meet the unique challenges of the MENA region. Our program isn't just about imparting knowledge; it's about nurturing leaders who can intuitively navigate and positively influence their cultural



GoChurch Beirut Team



There is nothing like seeing people say, “Yes” to the call of God and step into a place of serving Him.





Join the team training leaders and church planters in Lebanon to reach the unreached in MENA.

landscapes for Christ. This approach directly responds to the critical needs I discussed in my book, *Dangerous Assumptions*.

However, we have learned that this vision is something we need help accomplishing. My wife Julie and I are independently supported missionaries. We do not receive institutional funding but raise our ministry support through the generous partnership of those who share our heart to see the Gospel spread in the MENA region.

We see the financial support we receive as more than a donation; it's a partnership in the Great Commission, an act of obedience to Christ's command to be His witness everywhere and to everyone. These contributions enable us to scholarship Lebanese leaders in their ministry training. Sending cross-cultural missionaries is a chance to participate with the Lord in something He loves - seeking to save what is lost (Luke 19:9-10).

As we look to the future, we are excited about the accelerating spread of the Gospel across the MENA region. We ask for your prayers for this vision, in line with 2 Thessalonians 3:1-2. The soon return of Christ and the plentiful harvest that awaits (Matthew 9:37), coupled with the mandate to preach the Gospel to all nations as a witness (Matthew 24:14), fuel our urgency and commitment.

We invite you to join us in this mission. Your support can help us train more leaders and church planters, sparking a movement that will illuminate the MENA region with the light of Christ.

EXPANDING OUR REACH

PROJECTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Visit www.hattabaughfamily.org/projects to review our current ministry projects and opportunities to expand our reach in Lebanon and beyond.

HATTABAUGHfamily
MISSIONARIES/LEADERS, LEBANON

14:56

MENA Nations \$9.9
We have been invited to neighboring


New Ministry Facility \$150,000 USD
We have outgrown the 2 floors we have occupied in our current location and need to move to a commercial space. The expense of this move is 3-fold - first, the rent is at least 1 year in advance. Then the electric generation (currently, we have battery banks to support our existing facility). Finally any

Sponsor a Student \$1,872 USD
In October 2023 we are launching a ministry training center in Beirut.
Help us TRAIN 100 leaders and Church members by sponsoring a student to help us train 1

WE TRAIN LEADERS & CHURCH PLANTERS
Help us do it
hattabaughfamily.org

Gatherings
As a groups-based church in Beirut (a new church model for the Middle East), we gather all our groups once per month for our BIG Sunday Gathering.
Take part in reaching unchurched people by



A photograph of ancient stone ruins in Lebanon. A large, weathered stone column is the central focus, leaning against a massive wall. The scene is set against a clear blue sky, with other stone structures and a tall tree visible in the background.

Over the centuries, many things have
been built in Lebanon. We are working to
build something that lasts...

07

Being a Christian worker in the Middle East is only for some. We recognize that there is a grace that the Lord has placed on our family to be in this region at this time.

As every believer knows, the Lord never asks you to do something you can easily accomplish on your own. You have seen testimonies of the amazing people the Lord has brought into a relationship with our team; it is for one purpose: to accomplish what He has called us to do. We recognize that we cannot do it alone. We are looking for YOU.

You are the key to reaching all of Lebanon and beyond the borders into the neighboring countries. The Lord said that the Harvest is great and the Laborers are few. We can train laborers in Lebanon and neighboring countries to go out into the 22 nations in the MENA region. Still, there is a part for YOU to do. You see, You are the key to unlocking the Middle East. Because of faithful partners, we can plan for the work ahead; because of people like you, we can train Christian workers to leave this nation. Because of you, we can complete the projects necessary to increase the impact of the Gospel in this region.

Projects are one way that we move the plan forward; by going to our website and viewing projects, YOU can get involved, you can sign up for our monthly enews letter to hear amazing testimonies of what YOU are doing in the Middle East, by going to our website you can sign up to be a monthly partner to help move the mission forward in this part of the world. You can Pray - Serve - Give - and GO to the MENA region.



Projects help move us forward as we
build teams and systems to reach unreaached
people in the MENA region.

**Children at GoChurch Beirut
gather to celebrate Jesus.**

God's plan to reach the world is
through the church. Our aim is to
see life-giving churches planted
throughout Lebanon and beyond.





Raffi & Patricia, part of our GoChurch Beirut lead team.

Every second Sunday, all of our groups gather to celebrate Jesus in Beirut. By supporting GoChurch, you are building a life-giving church and church planting model we believe that can go throughout the Middle East.



What are our current Projects?

Beirut HUBS: This is a great way to create a vibrant church planting movement; HUBS is a place for families to socialize in a Christian environment. (Find out more at www.hattabaughfamily.org/hubs).

GoChurch Beirut - GoChurch Beirut is a group-based church; we meet corporately two times a month, once for what you would recognize as a traditional Sunday morning Corporate gathering, and the 2nd is on a Friday night. This is our believers' gathering; we often have a night of prayer or worship, and we open it up to how the Lord would lead.

Student Sponsorship: We currently have 87 students enrolled in a 2-year practical ministry training program. Because of the economic crisis in Lebanon, students cannot afford the tuition, so we aim to supplement the cost for leaders to be trained.

MENA & National Team Support: With every impactful effort, a solid team must bring support and ensure continuity. We are planning to increase our paid team by four paid team members in 2024.

Ministry Vehicle: Lebanon is a mountainous country, and the road conditions have deteriorated because of the economic crisis. The ministry needs to purchase an SUV to navigate the roads safely.

Access our projects and giving link by visiting www.hattabaughfamily.org/projects, or you can scan:



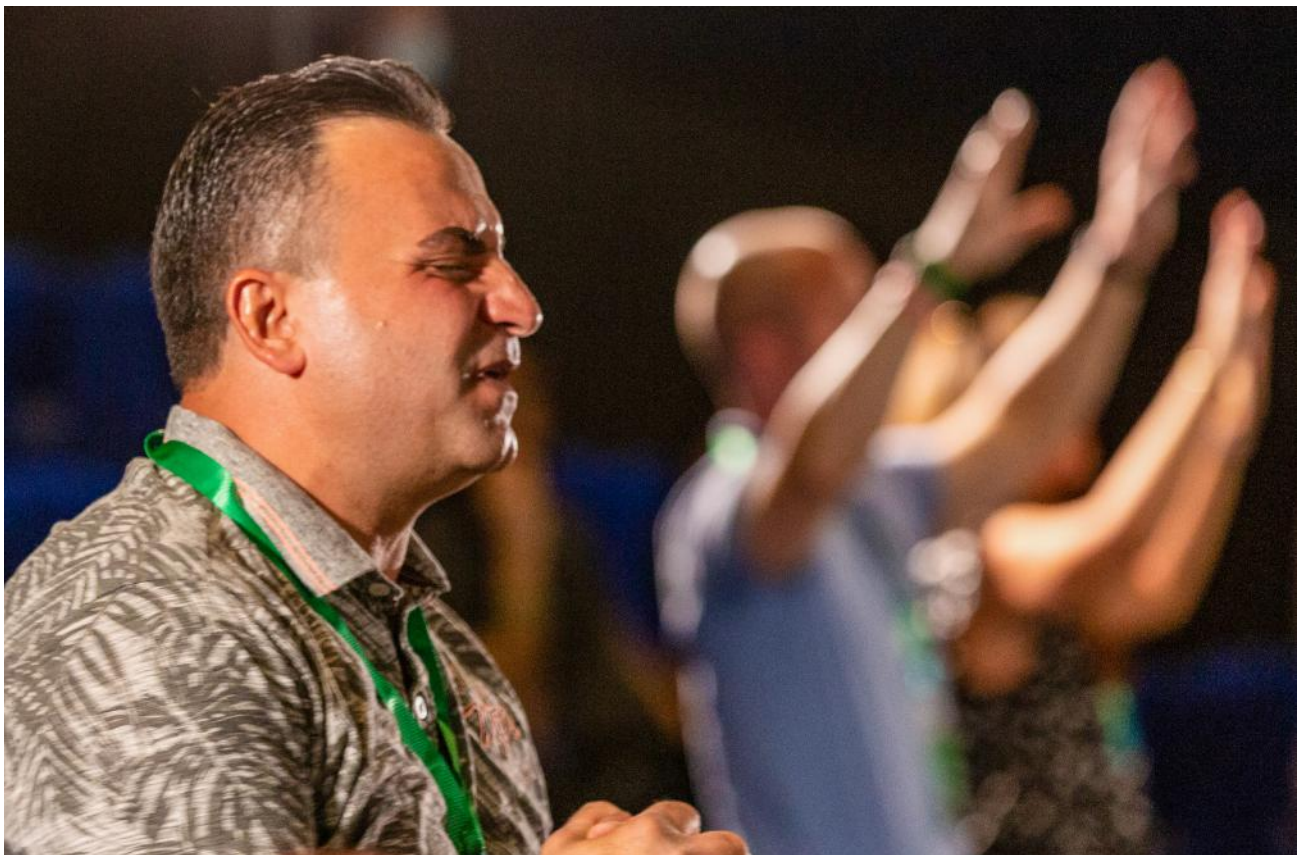
You are the Key to Unlocking the Middle East.

CHURCH PLANTING FAMILY

Our aim is to become as useless as possible as fast as possible – so we are actively working to replace ourselves. Youssef and his family have a passion to see their community encounter the love of Christ that has changed their lives.

By: Julie Hattabaugh

This is Youssef. We met his family in 2021 when they came to a Grow Group. Youssef's daughter Pheobe quickly became friends with our teenagers. Over these two years that we have been in a relationship with their family, we have seen the Lord move in their life. Youssef came from a Muslim



At 16, Pheobe made the decision to train for ministry.

background and gave his heart to Jesus in the early 2000's. When he made that change in religious belief, it changed the trajectory of his life.

Now, Youssef is working with our team leader in the North to build an Arabic-speaking GoChurch campus. He is building relationships with unchurched people in the region to help others have the same life-changing experience he has had. We deeply admire Youssef's courage in following Jesus at personal cost and the contagious joy he radiates from his transformed life.

Youssef and Pheobe have joined the Practical Ministry Training School to receive formal training to help them as they work to build teams that will create a foundation for the Lord to build



We are working with Youssef to build a church launch team in the North of Lebanon.

His church in that area. Pheobe, who is 16, is our youngest ministry training student. She is developing a children's ministry team for the North. She is excited to see the Gospel go out into her community.

Youssef and his daughter Pheobe and their family are an inspiration in their wholehearted commitment to seeing many come to faith in Christ. Their authentic passion stirs our support. God is already using them powerfully, and we eagerly anticipate greater Kingdom fruitfulness through their faithfulness.

We are excited to see GoChurch grow north of Lebanon, but we celebrate that Lebanese followers of Christ led it.



Matt & Julie Hattabaugh

We training Leaders & Church Planters in
Lebanon and the Middle East & North Africa

USA Mailing Address:

PO BOX 140013
Broken Arrow, OK 74013

www.hattabaughfamil.org