

## EGYPT August 2004

The CCM are in touch with a number of long term contacts and students of Bible Basics in Egypt, and a visit was arranged to encourage them in their studies. Nobody was ready for baptism but we spent a lot of time with several very interested people, one especially travelled 320 km each way from southern Egypt in order to be with us. Press reports abound of the persecution suffered by any who convert from Islam to Christianity, in this highly tradition and family based society. The Coptic Christian minority are also very strongly tradition and family based, and it is very hard to persuade them of the need to be properly baptized, even after they have studied and agreed with the doctrines of Bible Basics. However, our Coptic friends are introducing us to others with whom they have contact in the Moslem community, who are interested in conversion to Christianity. The potential for ministering the love of Christ to these lovely people who are in such a difficult situation is very great. Brother John Stibbs is working on registering a charitable organization which would specifically cater for the needs of those compromised by and suffering from the abuses of such fundamentalist religion.

We had a rather unpleasant experience with a Bible Basics contact who claimed to be interested, and even expressed interest in baptism. We wisely met him in a McDonalds rather than in our hotel- although he had kept asking which hotel we were staying in. He said he'd like to come to our hotel to be baptized. However we obviously wanted to talk with him first, and as we went through doctrine with him, he suddenly dropped his guise, as if he just couldn't keep the act up any longer, slammed down his Bible Basics on the table and stormed out with hard words. This kind of experience isn't uncommon in our preaching in Moslem lands- fanatics will pose as interested in order to find out more about what we're up to.

We did however meet many sincere contacts in that same McDonalds. They were especially grateful for the Arabic edition of Bible Basics for Moslems, 'the blue book' as they know it. We encouraged them in the use of the Bible Companion and some of them formed friendships with each other. We hope to make a return trip some time if, as we pray, they progress towards baptism.

Photos:



With contacts in a Cairo McDonalds- discussing Bible Basics with Moslem women in the background



Our dear contact M with his Bible Companion



With a female contact- talking about baptism whilst we walked over the River Nile



A text message received from one of our contacts warning us about the danger of being seen as distributing Bible Basics for Moslems (the 'blue book')

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**The Bible Basics Follow Up Team**

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**To Contact us, please email [info@carelinks.net](mailto:info@carelinks.net)**