### Some things change... but others don't!

In the midst of the change we are witnessing in our part of the world, we have seen governments change, leaders stepping down and countries change over night. Some people's lives have changed forever; they have lost loved ones, a home and peace inside out, While all this is happening around us, some things have not changed at all.

Our Lord is still the same, yesterday, today and forever! His tomb is still indeed empty and He is still and always will be very much alive!

At AWT, we still believe in the message of love we want to share with Arab women. A message that hasn't changed because of the unchanging nature of its author! The King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

We appreciate all your support and prayers for our ministry. We may not know for sure what is waiting for us in the days to come, but we are sure that we can do all things in Christ who strengthens us. We will continue to spread His love, talk about His salvation and help Arab women be introduced to a better life that exists in Jesus Christ alone!

Happy Easter to you, to your families and loved ones!



# Arab Woman Today Ministries **every letter** April 2012

# First steps in counseling – Staff training

God has been opening many doors for us to reach the wounded. We find many Christians working in different ministries, but there is always a great need in the field of counseling. Three of our staff members attended a week long training to be introduced to the basics of counseling. All three of them said that they went to this course thinking it's about helping others, only to discover the importance of knowing yourself first and how important it is to allow God to do His work in you before doing His work through you. The two speakers from Egypt, who have worked in the field of counseling for around 10 years, did a wonderful job in communicating to the attendees and in teaching essential topics such as:

- The definition of counseling
- Early childhood
- Human needs according to different stages of life
- Abuse in all forms
- Self image
- Human feelings Emotional intelligence

The small group sessions and individual time with the speakers was great for interaction and better understanding of ourselves in order to reach out to others around us.

#### Self Defense course

In the previous two years, we held several "self Defense" courses for young girls. As the cases of violence against women and children is rising every single day, we thought of this kind of training as a tool to help reduce the violence and give practical ways for the young women to avoid being hurt or violated as much as possible. We have succeeded in teaching the girls many self defense moves for their safety and we felt like we focused more on the physical and practical side to this issue.

As we learned more, we decided to build our own curriculum and have the theoretical and practical sides go together equally and do this course in a different way! Having a new staff member who came to help in writing curriculums has helped a lot to support this plan. We held the first course for this year in Zarqa City for 15 girls. In the first day, we presented the material we prepared on the importance of this issue and the kinds of violence we might face and how to deal with it and prevent it from happening as much as possible.

Through lectures , games and one to one conversations we reached the hearts of these girls, listened to many painful situations and helped in raising their self confidence and value. We left the second day for the practical side! We had great cooperation from the Jordanian Women Police department. Two professional Self Defense trainers taught the girls how to react in different life threatening situations.

Here is what some of the girls had to say about this course:

Rania: "This is a very important subject for every girl to learn. I went home and taught everything to my younger sister. Now, I have more courage walking in the streets."

Lana: "Every time I walk in the street I remember the things you taught me! We really needed it. It is a blessing that we can be more aware of what is going on around us and how we can defend our selves."

Mirna: "I have heard many things for the first time in this course. And you reminded me again of some things I already know and need to keep in mind always as I am walking in the streets and dealing with people all around me. Also, giving us the chance to share our stories and others' stories that we hear was important and eye opening to many young girls who were attending."









## **Updates on AWT's new offices**

The construction site looks more like a normal place now! We can't wait to move to our new offices. We enjoyed selecting the colors of paint and each staff member is picturing where she/he will sit! Even though the offices are almost complete, we are not done with the financial challenge we have. Please pray for us for the following amounts still needed:

- \$205,000 is needed to complete the purchase of the 2nd unit.

- \$25,000 is needed for the government registration.

 \$50,000 is needed to complete the HVAC, electrical for the training room & kitchen cabinets &

storage closets.

- \$19,000 to furnish the training room and offices.

#### **Prayer Requests**

1. Pray for the Arab nations so they will know the Lord among all the difficulties and the political unrest in the region.

 Pray for the persecuted believers in the region.
Pray for all the ministries and plans we have throughout this year.

4. Pray for the final stages of the new offices and the finances needed for its completion

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#### **Donations:**

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