



## Thomas and JoAnne Franzen

### Islamic Outreach

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II Corinthians 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

We want to thank all of those who prayed for our daughter during her pregnancy. On March 4 She gave birth to Abigail Rylee (5 pounds 12 ounces) and Emily Helen (6 pounds 14 ounces). Both were 19½ inches long. Although the twins were four weeks early, all went well, and they were able to leave the hospital with Stacey.

We are quite surprised at the growing Islamic presence here in the States. Chicagoland is now home to an Islamic policy headquarters, a Muslim talk radio show, and 80 mosques and Islamic centers. America's third-largest city is quickly becoming a stronghold for Islamic interests. Islamic internet sites boast of 200,000 Muslims in Chicago and 400,000 in the Chicago area.

Islam grows some through American conversions but mainly through strategic immigration. Muhammed set the practice of immigration (with the Hijra) as a tool for Islamic expansion as well as military conquest. One need only to look at their history and Europe to see how effective their methods are. While Islam appears to be more westernized and refined here, their conquest goals must be taken seriously. "Allah has decreed! Lo! Verily shall conquer, I and My "messenger. Lo! Allah is Strong, mighty" (Qur'an 58:21).

The Lord allowed us to see first-hand what it is like to live as a minority in

a Muslim town and experience the "tolerance" and "peace" given to Christians. As American citizens we're concerned about America's cultural trajectory, and as missionaries we're concerned about getting the Gospel to those who walk in darkness.

We know that Jesus Christ is the light which overcomes the darkness of men's souls, and those who are bound by Islam do not have that light. In John 8:12 Jesus said, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." This reminds us of the darkness we used to walk in and causes us to strive so others may also be saved from the darkness. This, of course, applies to Muslims.

We have just done a direct mailing to Muslim homes in a Chicago-area neighborhood and will begin visitation to see what type of response we have. As with most mailings, the key is to get it opened and read. We addressed each envelope by hand and affixed a regular postage stamp to give it a more personal appearance. Once it is opened, the recipient will find Chapter 1 of the Gospel of Luke, a response card for a New Testament, and three different tracts which are designed especially for Muslims. A few days after the mailing, we will start following up on as many homes as possible, as quickly as we can. We will see what doors God will open.

Please pray that the mailings will be read and that the Lord will convict the readers of their need for Him. Also pray that we will be strengthened in the Spirit of God to do His work and make His name and salvation known among those in spiritual bondage.

We want to give thanks to all of you who continue to uphold us by prayer and financial support. We certainly appreciate you and your service.

### Prayer Requests

- Tom's younger brother John, who has pancreatic cancer, especially for his salvation and health
- The health of Tom's father
- Wisdom and guidance and our walk with God
- New opportunities to be used for spreading the Gospel here in the States, focusing on Muslims
- Opportunities to work with churches to reach Muslims in their communities

### Did you know . . .

Did you know that you can read about the importance Islam places and the methods it uses to bring America into the world of Islam? Go to the following web page to access *Methodology of Dawah* (Muslim missions) by Shamim A. Siddiqi, 1989: [www.dawahinamericas.com/bookspdf/MethodologyofDawah.pdf](http://www.dawahinamericas.com/bookspdf/MethodologyofDawah.pdf).