

The Corbins and The EMBRACE Ministry to TCK's

Who would have thought one year ago when the whole world began to lockdown that we would still be dealing with closed borders, masks, quarantines, mandatory testing and possible mandatory vaccines for some?!? And yet, here we are. Even in spite of all the travel restrictions, God has opened some doors for me to minister, albeit not always in the way I would have expected.

As you might remember from our December letter, I was planning to serve at an International Messengers (one of the agencies with whom I am "contracted") discipleship camp in Egypt in February. Because so much of the world is closed to visitors unless you quarantine for 10+ days upon arrival, the opportunity to pour into Egyptian young adults AND have the opportunity to share with the International Messengers staff there about my ministry to TCK's seemed like a good option. Egypt did not require any quarantine, provided you had a negative COVID test result within 72 hours of arrival in the country. So, I went.

As with nearly every conference or ministry event where I serve, Satan always hits me by the end of day ONE with **fears** and **doubts** regarding my being there. Thoughts like, "I don't feel I'm connecting well with the young people. How will I make any impact at all? Should I really be here?" Believe it or not, this is a regular occurrence for me. So, inevitably I write Liana at the end of that first day expressing my concerns. She is such a gift from God to me and always offers



great encouragement, but none so much as this time. Here is a little of what Liana wrote to me:

"Remember, your effectiveness could likely be unseen, and God is stretching your faith to believe He has you there for a reason. Your presence there is making God smile. Enjoy that!"

The very next day we had a break between small group time and lunch. So I decided to watch some of the guys play

ping pong. After about 5 minutes, one of the guys from my small group, **Samuel**, walked over and just stood by me. I struck up a conversation with him, and after about 2 sentences, he wanted to share some personal things with me. So, we went to another area and sat down. Over the next hour and a half, Samuel tearfully poured out his heart to me. We prayed together, and God began to give me the opportunity to pour into this young man's life. We continue to keep in regular contact.



God Continues to Work...

Mekha and Monika

Mekha and Monika are a newly married couple serving on the staff of International Messengers in Egypt. Mekha is **Egyptian**; Monika is **Polish**; they are expecting a **baby**; and are planning to move to **Germany** to serve refugees. How's that for a complicated family life?! One day at the camp, I began to share with Mekha about my ministry to TCK's. His face lit up, and he said, "Wow, what an answer to prayer! We have been so concerned about how to raise a child in the midst of all these cultures and were asking God to send us someone to help us walk through this!" Please pray for Liana and me as we strive to walk alongside this dear couple as they enter unknown territory.

Sameh

Sameh was my translator at the camp. I am now doing weekly video chats with Sameh to help him process some major decisions in his life. He is seriously contemplating joining the International Messengers staff as well. Please pray for God's direction in his life.

TCK in East Asia

I was also recently connected to a missionary family in east Asia with a **13 year old son** who is really struggling after a year filled with one loss after another. He is feeling severely isolated, and his parents are quite concerned. We have set up bi-weekly video chats to help him process. Please pray for "Isaac" and for me as we try to process his losses in a healthy way.

"Lance"

One week before I left to serve at the Egypt camp, I got a message from a mom who serves with her husband in Romania. She was here in the States with her 18 year old son because her father was severely injured in a car accident. She asked if there would be any way for me to come and spend some time with her son. I have known—we'll call him "**Lance**"--since he was 13 and have a good relationship with him. However, over the past few years, he has been disconnecting from everyone. His mom was concerned for him. I flew up to North Carolina to spend one day with him. We began to talk about his future. That trip played a

part in this young man planning to move to Orlando this summer for a couple of years to live with his uncle. Right now, it is nearly impossible for Americans to visit Europe because of the pandemic, and who knows when

it will open up. But that

doesn't stop God from bringing this young man almost to my back door for me to pour into over the next couple of years.

Family

Since **Austin** couldn't get leave time to come to Florida this past Christmas, we flew up to spend a few days with him and his fiancé, **Jessica**. It was a precious time of laughter and celebration as a family. **Liana** keeps plugging away at school and is really making an impact on several of her students. AND...**Dylan** is back in Tech school! This is a real answer to prayer. He has been struggling with direction over the past year. He is excited about this new path for him.

What is a TCK?
(Third Culture Kid)
A TCK is someone who grows up in a culture that is different from that of their parents. The TCK takes on aspects of both cultures, but never feels like they totally belong to either.

