



Made Clean Update Summer 2022

“*Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.*”



Deuteronomy 11: 18-19



New Opportunities

It is always a privilege to bring God's word to the children in refugee camps, and these last months have been particularly exciting. We started our Mobile Counseling Unit in the Made Clean camps, and we also launched our extended Made Clean curriculum. **In the midst of this, we saw evidence of the change that our programs are making in the lives of the children and adults in the camps.**

Mobile Counseling Unit

The Mobile Counseling Unit is up and running in some of our Made Clean camps. We now regularly take our big blue RV and park it near the camps so that our professional counselor can run sessions. **There is a great need for this kind of support; many of the people we work with have experienced trauma and continue to live in challenging situations.** There is also a taboo around mental health issues in the communities where we work, so people we see would be unlikely to access this support in any other way. We have developed strong relationships with families in these camps and could explain exactly what would be offered in a way that made sense to them. So despite some initial reluctance, families are now happy to send their children to the counseling unit. **All the children who have had sessions and their parents have been very grateful.**



Since May we have completed:

3 Graduation Ceremonies **for** **43** Children

94 Programs **in** **15** Camps

Graduation

This month has brought with it the graduation ceremony for some of our children. We gave each child a certificate and a gift for completing the program and threw them a party with games and fun activities. These children do not often get opportunities to be celebrated, and it is always a delight to see how happy and proud they are to receive their certificates. Their parents were also pleased and grateful for the time we had spent with the children.



Extended Curriculum

Until now, we have worked in each camp for four months before running a graduation ceremony and moving on to another place. As we have added to the educational part of our program and built increasingly deep relationships with the families, we have felt the need for our program to be longer. So this month, for the first time, we have launched the pilot of our extended curriculum which we will be running in 12 camps moving forward. This curriculum will see us working with each camp for a year. In this time, we hope we can give the children a strong educational and spiritual foundation. **We are already witnessing the positive change our program is bringing to the camps and are excited to see what more we can do with extra time with these families.**

Change in the Camps

One positive change we have seen is described in the story below:

After we finished giving the lesson of the Good Samaritan and were on our way out of one of the camps in Damour we were informed about a long-running conflict. One girl, Mariam*, and two of her neighbors in the same camp, Marwa* and Batoul* had been fighting for some time. One of our team members sat down with Mariam to discuss the issue. Mariam stated that she had no desire to forgive Marwa and Batoul but our team member pointed her back to the lesson and showed her how we are even called to help our enemies who wrong us. If we should show such grace to our enemies, how much more grace should we extend to our neighbors and friends.

On our next visit, we got all the girls together and they made up, they hugged each other and were very happy. After we left, Marwa messaged us and thanked us. She told us that Mariam had forgiven her and Batoul and that they had gone and visited her. The parents of all the girls also thanked us, saying that they had been trying to get the girls to make up for a really long time without success, they were so happy that we had helped them.



*Names changed for child protection purposes

Prayer Requests

Praise God For:

- The Mobile Counseling Unit and the counselors we now have.
- The positive changes we've seen in the camps.
- The new extended curriculum and the camps who have agreed to work with us for a year.

Please Pray That:

- Our extended time in the camps would lead to deeper relationships and more opportunities to share the love of God.
- God would give the team energy and strength as they visit the camps in the hot summer weather.
- The Mobile Counseling Unit would help many families.