

Grace in Action

Stories of God at work in and through the GIS community

Running Toward the Battle

There is no such thing as “just another day” during times of war. Each day brings its own challenges as well as its own opportunities to show the love of Jesus in action. Missionary Paul Bradley, serving in partnership with Cadence International and the Free Burma Rangers, knows this all too well.

“Last month when I was in Iraq, we heard a land mine detonate close by. My team and I ran to the scene and treated an injured Iraqi soldier. He was very scared and was afraid he was going to die,” says Paul. “I laid hands on him and prayed for him in Jesus’ name. I was able to share this with him later after he had recovered, and he looked at me and said, ‘I love Jesus.’”

Paul has traveled to Iraq 4 times in the last 2 years with other team members from the Free Burma Rangers, a relief organization which has worked primarily in Burma, up until a few years ago. FBR trains relief teams to work in regions of Burma where the Burmese army has been systematically killing, raping, and enslaving ethnic peoples in its own country in order to gain control of the land and resources.

Two years ago, Iraqis and Kurds who have been fighting ISIS asked FBR to send teams to help them. The teams have been helping provide medical care and relief not only for the forces who are fighting ISIS but also for the hundreds of thousands of people who are fleeing the war torn region. FBR teams are often the first to help those who are fleeing.

“While most relief organizations turn and run when the fighting starts, FBR runs towards it,” shares Paul. “We are distributing food and water to people who have literally left everything behind and are glad to have escaped with their lives.”

During his last trip, Paul’s team witnessed an entire family being hit by a land mine. He drove them to a nearby medical aid location, but the little three year old daughter did not survive.

Paul shares, “When the medic turned to the father and mother and told them their daughter was dead they both erupted in agony. I was there to comfort the father, hugging him, crying with him, and praying over him. Holding their daughter in my arms and looking into her face, I felt in my heart that she was with Jesus, and I prayed that she would lead the way for the rest of her family to know Him.”

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Grace International School exists to enable international Christian workers to remain in their field of service by providing for the educational needs of their children.