

Country focus: PTEE in Egypt

The first PTEE class, “Christian Education in the Family and the Church,” was taught in Egypt in 1983. Not long thereafter, upon the recommendation of Rev. Samuel Habib (1928-1997) of the Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services, PTEE joined the Evangelical Fellowship in Egypt, thereby strengthening its relationships among the many evangelical Protestant denominations in the country. That affiliation and those diversified relationships continue to this day. With offices in Cairo in the Shobra district, and in the south in Aswan, PTEE-Egypt June 2010 graduation included the awarding of 5 Certificates of Ministry and 4 Diplomas of Theology.



Equipping Leaders: *Wherever they live*



PTEE Graduation in Egypt 2010

It was in a prison cell in Egypt that Jorge reconfirmed his faith in Jesus Christ. Unjustly imprisoned in this predominantly Islamic country, Jorge already identified as a Christian, but his faith was weak.

He was visited by local PTEE tutors during his imprisonment, and their encouraging presence helped to bolster his faith. With their help, he began taking PTEE’s courses, holding tutoring sessions during these personal visits and by mail, completing both the certificate and diploma courses of study.

As Jorge’s faith and personal conviction grew, his fellow prisoners and guards noticed a difference in how he conducted himself day to day. His lived testimony gave Jorge opportunities to talk about Christ with those around him in prison. And his PTEE training enabled Jorge to delve more effectively into personal scriptural study, to instruct and counsel fellow prisoners in their Christian faith, and to tackle questions of faith from skeptics as well. With one final course remaining—now released from prison—Jorge plans to earn his B.Th. degree soon.

Jorge’s story highlights some of PTEE’s unique strengths. PTEE serves locally-based Christians in their spheres of influence and ministry. Very often, PTEE tutors and students are *already* engaged in active voluntary Christian ministry, typically in addition to full-time employment of some kind. As believers, they are *already* visiting prisons, reaching out to those in need, and serving in church leadership. PTEE coursework and the relationships developed through regular tutoring sessions strengthen and deepen students’ personal faith as well as the community of local believers, empowering all to reach out further to those who are in need of the good news of Jesus Christ.

PTEE Courses in the Gulf

Recently, two teams from PTEE traveled to two different countries in the Arabian Peninsula to offer a two-day tutor training seminars for Arab expatriate churches eager to invest in its leadership through theological education. Many church members are men who have come to the Gulf for work. Because of their employment status, these believers are separated from their families for long stretches of time. Recently-graduated tutors are already busy registering new students for classes. Upon completion of the tutor training seminar, one participant—a medical doctor who had previously taken PTEE courses in his home country—told the team:



Students in small group discussion

"I am a man who holds many certificates and degrees. I thought that when I left [my home country] for the Gulf, I was leaving behind any real opportunity for studying theology and future church leadership. I never thought that this educational opportunity would be possible for me when I came here. And so this certificate means more than any I have *because I got it here..*"

Ministry Center Funds Needed

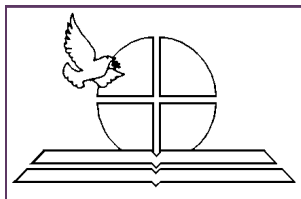
We have a special need for PTEE's new ministry center in Amman, Jordan. We need to raise \$175,000 for the renovation of the new building. We are asking all of our supporters to consider giving a special gift towards the completion of this building project. Please prayerfully consider how you can help PTEE today.

Please keep PTEE in your prayers

- Praise the Lord with us for recent PTEE graduations in Bethlehem and Egypt.
- That the Lord would meet the financial needs of PTEE, particularly in these difficult economic times.
- We praise the Lord for safe travels for our academic consultants to the Gulf, and for God's people who courageously worship him wherever He places them in the world.
- For PTEE's on-going work to implement the Strategic Plan 2010-2014, that God would give us prudence and endurance to meet our ambitious goals.
- That Arab communities, wherever they are, will have access to quality Christian churches and sound teaching.

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