



SABBATH 12—MARCH 23, 2024

Teaching the Teacher

1 John 2:14—“Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the wicked one.”

Kaan took a good look at Bruno and Natalia, wondering why this foreign couple would want to learn his native language. “Are you Christians?” he asked finally. The young missionaries hesitated. They had just arrived in the Middle East and were planning to settle in a neighboring country where it was forbidden to speak about Jesus openly. But first, they needed to learn the local language, so they contacted Kaan to see if he would be willing to teach them.

“We were afraid to answer that question,” Natalia said later, “but we couldn’t help it. Praying silently that God was in control, we said yes.” But the couple wasn’t prepared for Kaan’s answer: “I will gladly do that.” And then he added very quietly, “Because I’m studying the Bible.”

Taken by surprise, Bruno and Natalia looked at each other. That night, they asked God to help them be a blessing to Kaan and to allow him to learn more about the Word of God. In the second study, Kaan surprised them again by opening his bag and taking out a Bible. During the same study, Kaan asked Bruno what he did in his home country. Bruno said that he had studied theology. Then Kaan asked, “And what are you doing here?” Hesitantly, Bruno told him that he was a pastor.

Kaan looked at him, dumbfounded. “So, can you help me learn more about the Bible?”

“I would love to,” Bruno replied, thanking God for having answered his prayer.

Kaan’s family also began to study the Bible. Kaan began attending church on Sabbath with Bruno and Natalia. During that period, all the sermons were focused on the twenty-eight fundamental beliefs of the Adventist faith. Kaan and his family attended all the meetings. After studying with Bruno and Natalia for several months, Kaan asked for baptism.

Appeal: Bruno and Natalia are engaged in the Waldensian Student initiative, a first-class mission approach in which Adventist students live, study, and serve at secular universities in specific countries in the Middle East and North Africa. Following Christ’s example of evangelism, they connect with people, earn their trust, meet their needs, and, when the opportunity arises, invite them to follow Jesus. Mission offerings help support the Adventist Church’s ministry in the Middle East and North Africa. Thank you so much!

