

# a passion for the neglected

Sarah is serving in the Middle East as an early childhood teacher, working alongside a society for the disabled for the disabled.

It's a steep learning curve living and serving overseas. You can't help but be changed, both emotionally and spiritually. My relationship with God is deeper; I have definitely learnt to lean on Him more. The Bible is brought to life as I can see Bible images throughout the country, from things like flat roofs to community life, and how girls are married off with the husband being chosen by their parents.

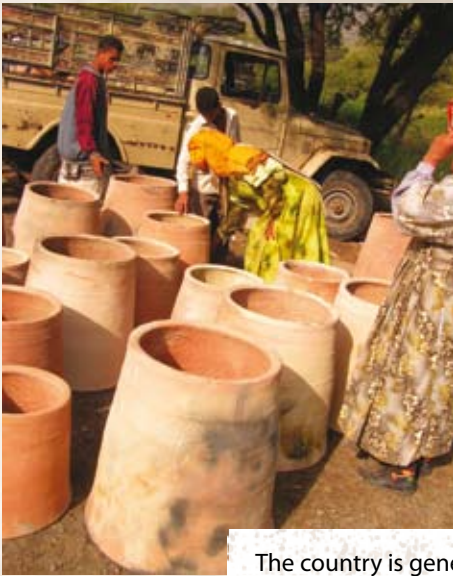


A particular family have been observing me since the beginning of my time here. When they see me going into houses to work with disabled children who are otherwise neglected, they ask, "Why are you doing this?" The children's families and neighbours also can't understand why I am doing what I am doing. It's great that it is making them question and think; it is letting my life speak for itself, and letting Jesus shine through.



I work alongside a society for the disabled, working both within a school setting (advising teachers and having fun with the children), as well as visiting children in their homes who otherwise would receive no aid or education. I am serving here because there is a great need; working with children who have disabilities is my passion, and to be able to serve God by using my profession is exactly me, so that's all good.





**If you really feel the desire to serve,  
then there is no valid excuse not to go.**

God gives us desires for a purpose - trust Him and who He has made you to be. All sorts of people of all ages and backgrounds are needed to serve Him throughout the world. Often you just have to take the first step and say, "Yes God," then things will begin to change. So go ahead and do it!

The importance of support from 'home' is far above anything you could ever imagine. Knowing there are people 'back home' (even if they're from 10 different countries) is the ribs of the whole adventure. The backbone is God, and the support from home is the ribs... you can't live without either. ■



One of the biggest changes I've had to adjust to is being in only female company, the attitudes towards the role of women, and of course, style of dress! Sometimes all these changes have been really hard, and I have to remind myself that I am doing these things in order to show my respect for the local culture, so as to be able to show the love of Christ.

The country is generally hot with some humidity. The landscape is varied; from sweeping deserts to mountains to the sea. The people are friendly and very hospitable; they like to meet new people. It is very much a segregated society, so my time is spent with women and children.

