

"Our mission is to love and care for those seeking refuge from war torn countries with the heart of Jesus."



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Our Executive Order

Our nation and our world have been shaken by our President's executive order on refugees coming into our country. Many refugee families anticipating a new life in the United States have been stranded in airports and turned back from coming here to St. Louis and many other cities. Amidst the confusion, shock, anger, fear and discouragement we have seen people of all walks of life rise up, march and speak up for these families who are desperate for a new life. Our phones have been ringing from pastors, church members, universities and individuals wanting to know how Oasis International, and the refugee families we serve, are doing. The outpouring of love and concern has been phenomenal. As I was in a conversation with one of the pastors in my office, the voice of the Holy Spirit rose up in me and said, **"We have already been given an Executive Order from our King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Jesus Christ. He said, "THIS IS MY COMMANDMENT THAT YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER."**

John 15:12

People in general don't like commandments. But **to Love**, now that is a **Great Commandment!** What can we do? That is what all the callers and emailers and texters are asking? Here are a few things we can do:

- 1. Let the executive order from President Trump motivate you to do the Executive Order from Jesus.** We still have many refugees in the United States that need to be loved and cared for. Greet refugees in the market place and let them know that you care about their family here and their families still in refugee camps or still in the middle of their wars.
- 2. Give financially.** Refugees that come to the U.S. receive 3 months assistance and then they are on their own. In 3 months that need to get a job, learn English, get transportation, and figure out the U.S. government. Every week we have refugees coming for rent and utility assistance because their jobs are the low end of the pay scale. Many receive food stamps for food items only. It does not allow them to buy essentials like: toilet paper, soap, shampoo, diapers, feminine products, laundry soap, etc.
- 3. Become a friend.** Loving and caring will bring you to the place of friendship. Friends will help the new refugee navigate this new life here in this new city and country. Friends will also help take away fears and discouragement and help give faith, hope and love.
- 4. Pray.** Pray for President Trump and the leaders around him for wisdom and compassion so our country will be safe and the refugees will receive the welcome they deserve. Pray for the refugees living in the U.S. for peace, for jobs and security. Pray for the refugees already vetted to be released from their refugee camps quickly.

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Please check out our video at <https://vimeo.com/121524862>



I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger, and you welcomed me. I was naked, and you clothed me. I was sick, and you took care of me. I was in prison, and you visited me.

Oasis In the City: "Stories from the heart."



Often I spend time visiting in the homes of our new refugees friends. Last week, two American ladies and myself had lunch with two Syrian refugee students who have only been in the country five months. When I walked into the apartment, the room was neatly decorated with furniture from Oasis: two beautiful, red loveseats with stylish gold and red pillows to match, tables, lamps, pictures and a small coffee table was set with candies and nuts to enjoy. After we ate a delicious Middle Eastern meal of dolma, biryani and salad in their small kitchen we enjoyed very hot, cardamom tea in beautiful, delicate glasses with three delicious cakes in the living room.

One of the Syrian ladies showed me pictures on her phone of Zaatari, the refugee camp in Jordan, right on the border of Syria. She and her husband and five children lived there in metal corrugated huts for four years as they went through the two year vetting process to come to America. They shared bathrooms and a kitchen with other families. Often there was not enough food or clothes for the cold and snowy winters. Also, my new friend showed me pictures of four members of her family that were killed by Bashar Al Asaad's army.

There is deep hurt, real fears, great loss and struggles each family experiences like my friends' story I have just shared. But these families are strong, resilient and full of hope that they are in a better place for themselves and their children. Thank you for helping Oasis to help them in so many practical ways as they start their new life. Jesus died for them and loves each one. As we invite the stranger in, we are mindful that we are ministering to Jesus and what an honor and privilege this is!

