
Visit of Munther Isaac – 09 April to 16 April 2016

Munther Isaac (PhD, Oxford Centre for Mission Studies) is the academic dean and assistant professor at Bethlehem Bible College and director of the influential Christ at the Checkpoint conferences. He is also in the process of getting ordained at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. His PhD research focused on the theology of the Promised Land. Munther is the chairman of the board of the ministry of the Christian Students in Palestinian Universities (IFES related), and is involved in many other ministries in Palestine. He is an author and blogger. He writes on issues related to Palestinian contextual theology, the land, justice, and peace-making. He is married to Rudaina, and they have two boys: Karam and Zaid. Recently, Dr. Isaac has had his first book published, entitled “ From Land to Lands, from Eden to the Renewed Earth “

Academic achievement:

2009 – 2014: PhD Oxford Centre for Mission Studies – Research topic – Theology of the Promised Land

Theological college/Seminary:

2002-2005: Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia. Master of Arts in Religion. GPA: 3.5

1997-2002: Birzeit University, Palestine. B.S. Civil Engineering. GPA: 74%

Employment:

Since 2014: Assistant Professor at Bethlehem Bible College and Director of the Christ at the Checkpoint Conference.

2005-2009: Musalaha Reconciliation Ministry: leading desert encounters between Palestinian believers and Messianic believers.

1997- 2009: IFES ministry in Palestinian Universities. First as a student, and continue to support and help through leading and speaking in conferences.

Q & A

What kind of work do you believe God is calling you to?

I believe God has gifted me in the area of Academics and teaching. The Palestinian Church (like other Middle Eastern Churches) depends a lot on emotions (which is not bad in itself), but lacks worshipping God through the mind. I enjoy teaching a lot and I think I am called to be a teacher. In addition, the Church in the Middle East depends a lot on translated books and I believe the time has come for a new generation of young Arab theologians who can produce quality contextual theology for an Arab context.

Why do you hope to undertake post-graduate research?

The Palestinian Church needs it: The Palestinian Church and specially the Evangelical Church is in a great need of educated leaders. We as Evangelicals need it to gain respect in the wider Christian community. Currently, among Evangelicals from the West Bank, no one holds a PhD. Those who hold a PhD degree are Arab Evangelicals from Israel (Arab Israelis) or Gaza. In addition, the subject of my

study is one of great importance to the life and experience of the Palestinian Church. It is hope that my own study will be valuable to the Evangelical community in Palestine.

The Bible College needs it: it is very important for us a College to have more faculty members who hold a PhD degree as this will enrich our faculty and Academic standards, and it will help us gain more accountability in front of the Palestinian government and the wider Christian community. We currently have three faculty members who hold a PhD. Also, as an assistant to the Academic Dean and a candidate to become the Academic Dean in the future, it is very important for the advancement of the College that I continue my study.