



Day **07**

Sept. 19, 2007

Tunisia's Muslims

Tunisia makes its mark by staying out of the international news. Nestled between Algeria and Libya on the southern Mediterranean coast, security and unity are the hallmarks of this country of 10 million. Both Islam and secularism shape the minds and values of most Tunisians. Thanks to a strong and effective police force, peace and security reign, and millions of European tourists are welcomed each year. Islamists from neighboring countries have made recent efforts to cause disruptions but have thankfully been thwarted.

It is relatively easy to talk with Tunisians about the Gospel, though many do not show interest in spiritual things. Some who have experienced healing and deliverance in the name of Christ acknowledge that Jesus has changed their lives, yet still do not commit their lives to him. Others

profess faith and then do not commit themselves. There are shining examples of committed individual disciples, but few truly indigenous house churches.

There is a small national church with a handful of recognized local leaders. The church consists mostly of well-educated people who are more westernized than most of the population. Most Tunisian believers live in the capital, Tunis (population 2 million), but a few believers are now living in at least four cities which previously had little or no Christian presence. With so few believers, the role of media (especially Arabic satellite TV programs) is still important in reaching vast parts of the country.

Though direct persecution and arrests by the police are rare, many believers fear being ostracized by their friends and families.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- ▶ *Pray for healthy marriages and strong families. Some young adult believers sometimes have difficulty finding marriage partners.*
- ▶ *Pray for those who have experienced Christ in healings, dreams and deliverance to really commit their lives to him (Ephesians 5:11-20).*
- ▶ *Pray for more effective co-ordination and follow-up of media contacts (satellite, and radio broadcasts are done daily).*
- ▶ *Pray for wisdom for government leaders, especially in protecting the country from radical Islamists (Romans 13:1-5).*

Tunisia is an important destination for European tourists.

