

Remembering MECO's past, and looking to our future

This year we rejoice as MECO celebrates 150 years of ministry in the Middle East. As we thank God for the past, we must also look to the future with renewed energy and purpose. It requires us to move forward with a new sense of mission - a renewed vision.



Stuart Plowman, MECO's Executive Director, challenges us to look forward with a renewed sense of vision to God's plan for MECO and your role in that.

For MECO at this time, our vision is about creating something new and looking to God for His vision for us. True vision comes from God. Ours will be fallible, flawed and limited. God's vision is perfect in every way. It will be the best for us; it is a 'gift' to us. By building on the foundation of the past, and focusing on God's will for our future, the present emerges with a reality that is better than that which is currently available.

Building on past experience


MECO arose out of the vision to reach the people of this region long ago. So, we are here in the Middle East, but why did we come? What was the challenge the Lord presented? Within that vision, there lies direction to renewed purpose and ministry. Any future vision is not at odds with the context in which He has placed MECO. God works through us in the very places He has called us to. Understanding the past and the present is critical if we are to shape the future. We are blessed with long experience - and we hope to build on that.

If MECO is to be reinvigorated and purposeful in its objectives, then we must

be dynamic enough to accommodate whatever God might lead us to in the future. We cannot be constrained by tradition, fear of the unknown, a comfortable complacency, and short-term thinking. That in its self will bring new challenges as God challenges us with 'new wineskins'.

Moving forward

But what of the practicalities? Already we are introducing a new partnership agreement linking the sending nations together to ensure unity and a common desire in pursuing our ministry objectives. The next stage in February will be for delegates from each sending nation to establish these priorities and common objectives. In a similar way, representatives of those serving in the Middle East will also meet with the leadership to work through a similar exercise. Together we will strive for a common vision and purpose that brings glory to God.

Will you join us in praying for the Lord's guidance as we meet and plan, discover God's vision for us, and share this vision with our colleagues at home and overseas? 

Pray with us for

- Clear communication of ministry objectives to delegates attending the meeting in February
- Guidance for MECO leaders as they look to the Lord for His vision for MECO
- Wisdom as they share this vision with colleagues



Identifying needs and prioritising our involvement



MECO's vision - to share the love of Jesus in the Middle East