

Langham in MENA

Across the Middle East and North Africa, Langham is investing in people and institutions that strengthen the church from within the region. The emphasis is long term: doctoral training for leaders who will teach and lead, locally rooted theological education, books in Arabic for pastors and students, and preaching movements that help congregations hear and live God's Word.

This work is not separate from crisis. In Lebanon, Nazareth, Egypt and diaspora settings, leaders supported by Langham are teaching, sheltering, counselling, writing, preaching and training while conflict and displacement increase the needs around them.

A few people and places to notice

Walid Zailaa and ABTS, Lebanon Walid, a Langham Scholar and Academic Dean at Arab Baptist Theological Seminary, is helping lead doctoral theological education while ABTS keeps teaching and opens its guesthouse to displaced families.	Hikmat Kashouh, Beirut Hikmat, a Langham Graduate and author, leads Resurrection Church. During bombardment and mass displacement, church facilities became places of shelter, food, hygiene support, medical response and pastoral care.
Rula Mansour, Nazareth Rula, a Langham Graduate, leads the Nazareth Center for Peace Studies and trains young leaders, students and global ministry leaders to practise reconciliation with honest, stubborn hope.	Hani Hanna and Arabic resources Hani, International Director of Langham Literature, describes the scarcity of Arabic theological resources. Funding helps locally written and translated books reach pastors, students and colleges.
Scholars from Egypt and Lebanon Current scholars are working on biblical studies, early church theology, education, political theology, reconciliation and preaching - with a clear path back into MENA institutions.	Preachers in Egypt and beyond The Egypt preaching movement has trained more than 150 preachers this year through five seminars, with small preaching groups continuing formation and peer support.

A word from the region

"Even in the middle of fear, God is still drawing people close and caring for them through His family." - Resurrection Church, Beirut

The main Programme strands

Programme strand	What funding is enabling	Why it matters for visitors
Scholars	Support for 8 MENA PhD scholars and 1 MENA ThM scholar, including mentoring and family care as they prepare for service in Egypt, Lebanon and the wider Arab world.	You may meet leaders studying while also teaching, pastoring or leading institutions under pressure.

Locally rooted theological education / MEGTC	Langham-connected leaders helped develop the Middle East Graduate Theological Consortium, launched in October 2025 by ETSC, Bethlehem Bible College, ABTS and the Protestant Theological Seminary in Amsterdam.	The goal is doctoral formation that lets students remain in the region and research questions shaped by Middle Eastern Christianity.
Literature	Arabic textbooks, translations and library grants are strengthening college libraries and giving pastors resources in the language of ministry.	Many teachers cannot rely on English or French materials; local Arabic resources speak better to culture, pressure and mission.
Preaching	Egypt's movement has held 5 seminars this year, training 150+ preachers, with 5 active small preaching groups and emerging work in Jordan and Arabic diaspora contexts.	Expect simple, relational training that helps pastors preach faithfully and apply Scripture in local communities.

Practical context for visiting supporters

- Conflict and displacement are not background issues; they shape daily ministry, travel, family life and institutional planning.
- Some churches and seminaries may be both places of learning and places of refuge, with guesthouses, community centres or clinics serving displaced families.
- Theological education is often highly relational and locally anchored. Leaders may study part time or split site so they can remain in ministry.
- Arabic resources matter deeply. Many pastors and students cannot easily use English or French texts, and imported materials may not address regional realities.
- Diaspora ministry can be fragile: refugee instability has paused some training in Turkey, while more stable Arabic-speaking diaspora settings, such as Abu Dhabi, are opening doors.
- Sensitivity is essential. The report names pressure, minority status, persecution, grief and families suffering on all sides; visitors should listen carefully and avoid simplistic narratives.

Prayer and engagement

Pray for peace, physical safety, housing and food for displaced families; for strength, endurance, wisdom and rest for leaders; and for faith to remain strong in crisis. Pray for scholars finishing dissertations, for ABTS and other colleges serving under pressure, for Arabic books to reach pastors and students, and for preaching movements to grow with integrity.

As you visit, look for the quiet signs of long-term investment: faculty who are also pastors, students preparing to serve their own communities, libraries being strengthened book by book, and local leaders helping the church hold lament, protest, reconciliation and hope together.