

Jesus Paid for a Prostitute

Dear xxxxx,

Farhad, a volunteer evangelist for Iran Alive's online ministry, did not know at first what to think when he sensed the Holy Spirit guiding him to pick up a prostitute. All he knew is that he needed to obey and that he had help waiting at home. Here is his story:



I picked up one of the prostitutes waiting for clients and took her to my home. When we got there, she prepared to take off her clothes. I quickly stopped her and explained I wanted nothing to do with her physically. I said, "Please sit here behind the computer with me and listen to what they say in this chat room."

She became very upset and thought I would not pay her. She threatened to scream and cause trouble for me. I told her not to worry, and that I would pay her what I had promised. She agreed and sat down.

The chat room was Iran Alive's Church7 online service conducted every Friday night. As we were listening, the pastor said, "The Lord is saying that those of you who think there is no hope left, you who think addiction is the answer to your pain, you who think being a prostitute is the only way to make money, there is hope for you." This caught the woman's attention.

Then the pastor said, "God is able to open new doors in your life. God is waiting for you. You just have to accept Him."

The prostitute started laughing and said, "All this is gibberish. I am doomed to be where I am today."

When the church service was over, I took her where she wanted to go. But I did not want to give up on her. A few days later, I went to the same place and again brought her home to listen to God's word through the chat room. Again a third night, I paid the prostitute's fee so I could share Jesus with her. And a fourth.

(Over, please)

On the fifth night that I picked her up, the pastor invited all prostitutes, thieves, and criminals to repentance and new life. I heard something inside me telling me to ask her to open her heart to receive Christ as her Savior. So I asked.

She replied, "I want to, but how else can I provide for myself and my children?"

I told her that if she decided to change her ways, I would help her find a job. She looked at me with amazement and joy, and she accepted Christ into her heart.

Two weeks later, with a friend's help, we found a job for Nahid. After two months of work, Nahid and I started a ministry to witness to prostitutes. Nahid has been a vessel for God, helping many give their hearts to Christ. This ministry has continued to grow and become a source for finding jobs and tending to those entangled in prostitution.

Online Church in a "Churchless" Country

My dear friends, there are no visible churches in Iran, where sharing Jesus can bring arrest, torture, and death. Due to security concerns, currently only 3 percent of the estimated one million believers in Iran have access to underground house churches.

But Iran has the highest number of Internet users among countries in the Middle East.

Through satellite TV and internet, Iran Alive not only provides church for the remaining 97 percent but also unites believers in fellowship, discipleship, and zeal to share the Gospel with others. Our online chat rooms and church services raise up leaders like Farhad who multiply the work of Jesus in Iran.

My dear friend, in this new year, please listen to the Holy Spirit as Farhad did and as He leads, commit your regular prayers and gifts to support Iran Alive to transform Iran into a Christian nation in this generation.

When you partner with us, you provide hope for millions of Muslims trapped by birth into a religious system that offers none, and strengthen the fast growing but deprived church in Iran.

And won't you please share our story with your pastor, your friend, your coworker? Let them know how God is moving in Iran. The regular media won't share this good news. It's up to you.



His for transforming Persia,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hormoz Shariat".

Hormoz Shariat, Ph.D.

President & Founder, Iran Alive

P.S. When you go to our website—www.IranAliveMinistries.org—to make your donation, be sure to check out my blog posts answering questions about ISIS, refugees, and lessons from the persecuted church.

A red, rounded rectangular button with a white arrow icon pointing right and the text "Donate NOW!" in white, bold, uppercase letters.