Bakhtiari in Iran



Former Zoroastrians, the Bakhtiari live in the Zagros Mountains of Iran as shepherds and carpet weavers, although some engage in agriculture and commerce. They are Shia Muslim like the Iranian majority. Oil has helped them have some contact with the outside and some live in urban centers. Otherwise, the tribe and clan are central to their lifestyle. Their women have more freedom than do most Muslim women.

Ministry Obstacles

There are many reasons why the Bakhtiari have not responded to the gospel. They are geographically isolated by rugged terrain. Clan divisions keep them socially isolated, so gospel efforts might need to be done on a clan by clan basis.

Outreach Ideas

There are many gospel tools in a language the Bakhtiari people can understand. There are radio and TV broadcasts, gospel recordings, Scripture portions and the JESUS Film.

Prayer Focus

Pray that the church would intercede for these people and would plan to



■ bahk-tee-AR-ee
POPULATION: 1,247,000
LANGUAGE: Bakhtiari
RELIGION: Islam
BIBLE: Portions
STATUS: Unreached

reach them via oil workers and women's commercial enterprises, clan by clan. Pray that women would become believers who teach the gospel to their children. Pray for a Disciple Making Movement among the Bakhtiari this decade.

SCRIPTURE Heal me, Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise. Jer 17:14

PRAY for this people group to seek and find the Lord's healing touch.