



## Reda Report 2018

### Reda Facts

Sponsored Children	94
Un-sponsored Children	1
Total Children	95
Village Staff	Hanaa, Samy, Marian

### Jesus

- AWANA
- Kids Conferences
- Discipleship Groups
- Home Visits

Healing Grace is working in three churches in Reda – the Evangelical Church, Apostolic El Balad Church, and Apostolic El Ezba Church. The three churches interact and work well together to meet the needs of the children and the ministry. An example of this would be the gathering for monthly disbursement of food packages. The churches plan this gathering each month at one of their buildings, and the mothers of sponsored children come together to receive the packages. The Evangelical Church hosts an AWANA club. All of the sponsored children attend the AWANA club.

Recently, the Apostolic El Ezba Church has been worried about the government building a new post office in front of the church. They are concerned that this will cause large crowds in front of the church, will affect church security, and will discourage women and girls from coming to church. The plans are not set in stone, and the church leaders have continued the discussion with government officials in an attempt to relocate the new post office.

The children in Reda, along with their siblings, had the opportunity to attend a children's conference in 2018. The conferences and their topics differ by age group: elementary-age children and teenagers. Several villages are invited to attend each conference, so children can meet new people and make friends from other villages in their age bracket. The themes for this year's conferences were:

**Elementary:** "Speak to Me" – the story of Samuel, God's calling, discerning the voice of the Lord, true belief, making Jesus the priority, the importance of the Bible, having a relationship with Jesus, and awareness for abuse

**Teenagers:** "Spend Time with God, not on Social Media", correcting false concepts about God, establishing a relationship with Jesus through prayer, value, and humility



*Every child deserves a chance.*

The sponsored children meet once a week for discipleship group. This is a meeting, in addition to AWANA, when the sponsored children learn more about Jesus and how to live fully for Him. The elementary age groups are generally taught by going through stories of the Bible. This year, they have focused on stories about children in the Bible. The middle and high school groups focus on learning Christian doctrine. Their main topics of the year have been about discipleship, psychological and spiritual issues, using social media wisely, problem solving by finding the root of the sin, sin and salvation, God the Father, and a better life in Jesus.

The village staff visit each child a minimum of three times a month in their homes. These meetings give the staff one-on-one time with each child and their family. They are able to meet the needs specific to the child, pray with them, encourage them, and build trust and a stronger relationship with their family. The most frequently asked prayer requests from the children are for academic success and for more job opportunities for their fathers.

## **Education**

- School
- Tutoring

One of the requirements to be a part of Healing Grace is that all of the sponsored children must attend school. In the villages, it is common for parents to keep their children from attending school, in favor of starting to work at a younger age, or doing chores to help the family instead. Many parents do not understand the long-term benefits of education, but our staff works with these parents to help them see the importance of education.

74 sponsored children in Reda receive additional tutoring. Literacy is the key focus of tutoring. While good tutors and strong literacy curriculum is difficult to find in the village, Healing Grace is continually seeking opportunities to help our students become literate and successful in their education. Right now, the children are tutored by one teacher in the village. They are also allowed to choose their own tutors with their parents, based on staff recommendations.

## **Health**

- Water Filters
- Medical Care

There is one water filtration system installed in Reda, which is located in the Apostolic El Ezba Church. Some of the families do not use the filtered water because the church, along with the filtration system, is far from their homes. While the Healing Grace staff continue to encourage families to use clean water, the village would benefit from more educational outreaches/campaigns on the importance of clean water.

The most prevalent health issues in Reda are hepatitis C and bronchitis. Many of the parents in the village have hepatitis C and need or receive treatment. In the village, bronchitis is often caused by tonsillitis that has been left untreated and can often progress to pulmonary disease if never treated. There are medical clinics in the village, but our families still rely on the Healing Grace doctor, who is the first point of contact for all medical needs.

## **Building Healthy Family Clubs**

Building Healthy Family clubs are held twice monthly and are intended to teach parents how to fulfill their roles as leaders of their home. This is taught by focusing on the 5 C's: Christ, Calling, Community, Character, and Competency.

There are two Building Healthy Family clubs in Reda. They are held at the Apostolic El Balad Church and the Apostolic El Ezba Church. 30 couples and 92 individuals attend meetings regularly, for a total of 152 participants. There are three couples from the local church in Reda that are trained by Healing Grace BHF Staff to lead the meetings. The couples are volunteers and are supervised by our BHF staff. The majority of the attendees are women.

The topics for each meeting are chosen by the BHF staff and voted on, so the most relevant needs are addressed in each village. Some of the topics that have made a great impact on the parents' daily lives were about relationships between spouses and how to raise teenagers. There have also been a few topics that have been a challenge to teach because, culturally, parents are not as receptive to them. One of the most challenging discussions has been about intimacy in a marriage.