

A woman with a red headband is shown in profile, writing in a notebook. In the background, there is a blurred office setting with a laptop and a plant. An inset image shows a classroom with several children sitting at desks, smiling.

MISSION FROM YOUR OWN HOME

LILY* LIVES IN THE UK, BUT BECAUSE OF TECHNOLOGY, SHE IS STILL ABLE TO BE PART OF MISSION WORK IN AFRICA

THE CALL

If you'd told me, just prior to the first Covid lockdown, that in three months I'd be resigning from my beloved teaching post at a great school down the road and that timeanddate.com would become one of my go-to apps, I would have told you that you didn't know me at all. But someone who knows me better than anyone, who is "intimately acquainted with all my ways" (Psalm 139:3), knew that deep down I had – for several years – been harbouring a desire to go onto the mission frontline, to be the first person to tell someone the gospel of Jesus Christ, preferably in a Muslim setting. He also knew that my like-minded husband did not (then) share that desire and therefore, we wouldn't be going any time soon.

THE MISSION

Fast forward and I am now into my fourth year of teaching with AIM in an Islamic country in North Africa from the comfort of my UK home! My tools are a laptop and a decent broadband connection. It makes me smile that God has orchestrated this arrangement just for me, with my particular skills and professional interests combined with my heart's desire to serve in a Muslim setting, while my husband can continue the necessary work he's involved in here and support what I do with AIM. Granted, I'm not (usually) physically in North Africa and granted, I'm not actually sharing the gospel with people who have never heard it, because it

is forbidden to do so in the school where I work. But, I am helping to facilitate and enable workers from AIM and other agencies who have school-aged children to live and serve in that city.

By God's grace, I am part of the team of teachers (workers and locals) who provide high quality education to missionary and local children alike. I'm helping the team on the ground by planning the curriculum, delivering lessons and grading work in my specialist area. I now better understand what the team are involved in and so can pray informatively for them. I also have the joy and privilege of teaching worker children and children from Muslim families who I can pray for and hopefully influence for good.

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THE IMPACT

In what is classed by some as a 'closed country', my team alone shared the full gospel message with over 540 people last year! This is one team in one city! Imagine how many people could be reached if we had more workers, more teachers and more schools in more locations. Online teaching has opened the door for more of us to serve in the mission field from where we are. Is this something that you could do?

GIVE THANKS

Give thanks for the way technology is enabling missionaries like Lily to play their part in the Great Commission from a distance.

Got a passion for mission and teaching? Why not check out our Teaching in Mission webinar on 8 June.

eu.aimint.org/teaching