

Biography of Nizar Fares

Nizar Fares was born to a Lebanese family renowned for its love of the arts and music. Musical talent first emerged in Nizar's childhood. According to Nizar's grandmother, his first performance was at the age of three. Nizar joined the school's Church Choir at age five and remained in it during all of his school years. Once he moved to La Sages School in Beirut, he also joined their choir but continued his membership and participation in two parish choirs. Thus, Nizar sang in both the children's choir and the adult choir where he was the youngest member. Nizar continued and graduated from collage and became a secular singer.

Nizar came to be born again after he was invited to an Arabic country to sing for the country's president and was treated very well for the first week then the tables turned and he was kept under house arrest for a full month. Subsequently he was let go back to Lebanon where he went through a very tough time and eventually through reading the Bible daily, the Lord saved Nizar and he became a new creation in Christ.

Nizar Fares' first release in 1996 with "Jeitawi Hospital's Choir", was followed by "Jesus My Joy" group in 1999, then "Agapée" Choir in 2000. Along with these albums, many of his recorded hymns were collected in his first religious album, "On You I Depend", in 2001.

As his voice and ministry became known, many churches began inviting Nizar as a soloist during evenings of worship, often accompanied by a local youth choir. Since that time the ministry has spontaneously grown, and one of its first goals was to guide people into prayer through hymns of worship, and invite them to deepen their relationship with the Lord.

Holding a PhD in musicology has opened doors for Nizar to engage as a lecturer in universities, colleges, and seminaries on several occasions. Many of those seminars were organized in dioceses, parishes and churches, where I addressed and tutored musicians, musicologists, choir conductors, worship leaders, soloists and choristers. Education and Talents are the tools, but the Lord is the goal.

The main medium of communication of this ministry was music, and since 1999, over 800 Christian songs were produced, that reached all children, teenagers and adults, from different backgrounds, ethnicities, even different religions. But with time, many other doors were opened in miraculous ways. Consequently, hundreds of other media contents were shared, hundreds of worship and prayer events were organized and attended, many refugees' camps were visited, several international philanthropy activities were embraced throughout years. It all led to create a seed sowed into the Kingdom, a new non-profit organization; Nizar Fares Global Ministry (NFGM).

Lately, <u>NFGM</u> has been burdened to visit more refugees' camps in the Middle East (Northern Iraq, Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, etc). Simultaneously, God is opening doors with refugees in Europe, such in Slovenia, Austria, Netherlands, Germany and others. And we are led through prayers and networking to help families to legally relocate into safer shelters.

Dear reader, the politicians' speeches are everywhere, the field work needed is truly elsewhere. The work set ahead of us is huge. Today, we invite everyone reading this brief, for a potential world-changing choice and experience;"The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest." Luke 10: 2.

While training and equipping young students, we always mention this idea: "maybe we are far from being heroes, but heroes were someday just like us!". If some extremist groups are fighting today fueled by hatred, we are fighting fueled by the Holy Spirit -the Living God!-, and we are never afraid to fight on the frontline, and that's what NFGM has been doing for the last couple of years...

Ephesians 4:13-15 states: "until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ."

Several years have passed since I yielded my life to the Lord's hands. Today, I bear witness that God is the source of every grace. I have grown to realize that instead of pleasing one's ego, one must ask the Lord to make him "a soft clay so He may mold him for His glory" and not for personal mortal glory.

God has always been with me, keeping me safe and protecting me before I acknowledged Him. He continues to save and protect me now that I know I am His child. I have experienced His love which surpasses the love of man. I now know that through believing in Him and living His Word, I shall be saved for eternity. Glory by upon Him!

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