

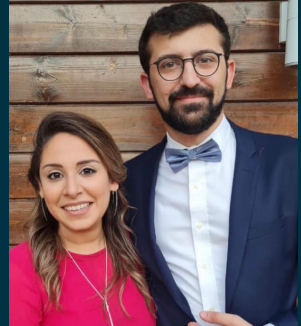
Joe and Mira Costa

Lea

Lebanon

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Joe and Mira Costa serve in Beirut, Lebanon, and its northern suburbs, using social media and in-person discipleship to reach young people across Lebanon and neighboring countries such as Syria, Jordan, and Egypt.



Ministry

- Their ministry focuses on reaching unchurched young people, challenging them to think about their relationship with God and their purpose in life. Their approach is built on three key areas:
- Social Media Outreach – Partnering with Lifeword to create engaging Arabic content that sparks spiritual conversations.
- Bible Studies & Discipleship Groups – Providing a safe space for young men and women to grapple with tough questions and grow in their faith.
- Leadership Training – Equipping pastors and young leaders to develop sustainable youth ministries and reach young people in creative, practical ways.

Their vision is simple: **Reach. Engage. Integrate.**

- Reaching young people with the gospel.
- Engaging with them through discipleship and one-on-one relationships.
- Integrating them into the local church while supporting and training its leaders.

Challenges

- Mass Immigration – Many young people and even trained leaders leave Lebanon due to the economic crisis and instability.
- Ministry Consistency – Political and social unrest make long-term discipleship challenging.
- Hopelessness & Skepticism – While many young people are asking questions about faith, they are also struggling with despair due to Lebanon's corruption and instability.

The People They Serve

Lebanon is a diverse country with:

- A population of 6 million – About 10,000 people are committed churchgoers.
- A Christian minority – Evangelicals make up only 1% of the population.
- A dominant Muslim majority, alongside Maronite Catholics and Greek Orthodox communities.
- Ambitious, well-educated youth – Many seek to leave Lebanon for better opportunities.
- Spiritual curiosity – The crises in Lebanon have caused many young people to question faith, God, and the meaning of life.

Spiritual Landscape

- Lebanon has around 26 Baptist churches and 6-7 biblically sound churches in the Costa family's area.
- The primary religions in Lebanon include:
 - Shiite and Sunni Islam
 - Maronite Catholicism
 - Greek Orthodoxy

Prayer Requests

- Protection – The situation in Lebanon is tense; pray for safety and wisdom for leaders.
- Hope for Young People – Many are lost and hopeless; pray that they find meaning in Christ.
- Open Hearts – That suffering Lebanese people would turn to God in the midst of their trials.
- Strength for Ministry – That God would provide guidance and endurance as the Costas continue their work.