

DAY 28: MAY 02

Cretan Turks

Cretan Turks are a community of approximately 300,000 people, with Christians numbering <0.01%. They descend from the Muslim population of Crete that formed during the Ottoman period after the 17th-century conquest. **Their roots combine Ottoman settlers and local Cretans** who converted to Islam.

After the 1923 Population Exchange between Greece and Turkey, most were relocated to Turkey, where they are known as Giritli. They are now **largely integrated into Turkish society** while still preserving elements of Cretan tradition such as food, music, and oral culture.

They are **predominantly Sunni Muslim**, with identity closely tied to both Islamic faith and Cretan heritage. Gospel access remains very limited.



Scripture

"They cried for help, and God heard them."

Exodus 2:23

Prayer Points

- ✓ Pray that God would **break down spiritual strongholds** among the Cretan Turks.
- ✓ Pray **for faithful workers** to share the Gospel in culturally wise ways.
- ✓ Pray **for younger generations** to encounter Christ and respond in faith.
- ✓ Pray **for spiritual openness** and that God would draw Cretan Turks to Himself.