



Light of Messiah Ministries

.....proclaiming Jesus, the Jewish Messiah!

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You Never Know

You never know. A few months ago I received a call from Mike. Mike is married to a Jewish woman. He called me desperate for help. "Murray", he said, "I am trying to help my wife and save my marriage. I love my wife dearly. She is Jewish and does not yet know Jesus. I know that if she knew Him, not only would her life change, but our marriage would be so much better. I'm hanging in there, but sometimes it is just so discouraging." I encouraged Mike and let him know that I would be glad to meet with he and his wife. I told him to let me know if she was willing to meet.

"Murray," Mike said the next time we talked, "I spoke to Ellen. She said she might be willing to meet with you in the future. Can you give me some dates?" I gave Mike several dates and waited for his response.

A few days later I got a call back from Mike. He told me that Ellen was willing to meet me the next Friday night for coffee and conversation. I was excited.

Friday morning my phone rang. It was Mike. He sounded discouraged. "Ellen just told me that she has had a long week. She doesn't want to get together right now. I'm sorry. Please keep praying for me." I told Mike I would and we hung up. I didn't expect to hear from him again, at least not anytime soon.

Mike called me back two weeks later. "I've been encouraging Ellen to talk to you. She said that if I meet you first then she will definitely meet with you. Can we get together?" I invited Mike to our home to meet with my wife and myself. I thought it would be encouraging for him to talk to her as well. We met and



"Blessed are you, Oh Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has kept us, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this season."

had a great evening. I shared my story with him and gave him some background information that I thought would help him with his marriage. **He left encouraged and excited about me meeting his wife, since he had fulfilled his commitment to her.**

I waited to hear back.

I heard from Mike a few days later. "Murray, I told Ellen what a great time we had together and what a nice couple you are. I was very excited and enthusiastic. **Then, Ellen told me she just wasn't interested. She said to drop the subject.**"

I told him that I would pray for him and his wife. I encouraged him to never give up, and to call me if he ever needed help.

I haven't heard from him again. Maybe I will.

You never know.

About a year ago I received a call from John. John was concerned about his friend, Alex. "Murray," he said, "Alex

is dating a Jewish girl who doesn't know Jesus. He is a Christian. I would love for you to meet with him. I think you could help him in his relationship with her. Maybe you can tell him how to handle the relationship...give him some materials to share with her. Maybe you can even meet with both of them." I agreed to meet.

I met Alex at a local coffee shop. We spoke for about an hour. I encouraged him in his walk with the Lord. I helped him with his relationship with his girlfriend. I gave him materials to read and to give to Miriam. "Alex, I would love to meet with you both. Maybe I can tell my story to Miriam. Maybe I can help her understand a little more about Jesus. I hope to hear from you soon."

I never did.

A year later I got a call (January 2004). "Murray, this is Miriam, Alex's girlfriend." "Miriam who," I said? I had forgotten about my conversation with Alex the previous year and surely didn't remember his girlfriend was Miriam. Miriam refreshed my memory. "Murray, I need to talk to you. God has been working in my life and I have so many questions. Alex and I are still dating, but this is something that I have to find out for myself. When can we get together?" We made plans to meet the next weekend after one of my church services. Miriam and Alex were going to come together.

I met with Miriam and Alex for three hours. We sat in the church foyer. I shared my story with them both and answered many of Miriam's questions. I told her that she needed to respond to what God was doing in her heart. We read several of the messianic prophecies

in the Old Testament that talk about the coming of the Messiah. I told Miriam that Jesus' hand was extended to her. **I asked her if she was ready to accept Him as her Messiah.**

"Yes," she said, with tears in her eyes.

We prayed and Miriam became our sister in the Lord that day.

She said that she has never felt more at peace. She knew she did the right thing.

Alex asked her to marry him the next week.

I have a wedding to do now!

You never know.

I was recently at a church wondering why I was there. The service was scheduled months ago, but everything had worked against me being there for weeks.

The interim pastor who I had scheduled the meeting with was gone. I thought they might cancel the service. They had a new interim pastor who I had never spoken to. Several unfortunate events had happened in the church. Many of the members of the church had left.

I did not know any of the specifics regarding the circumstances at the church, but knew God wanted me there for some reason. Maybe I was there to encourage the people. Perhaps God wanted me to bring a word of exhortation. **Every church is different, but I don't usually have the question in my mind, "Why am I here, Lord?"**

I was setting up my Passover table ten minutes before the service. A middle aged woman came up to the table and said, *"Hi, my name is Susan, I will not be in the service, I am the babysitter for the church. I am here every Sunday. I would love to talk to you sometime. I wish I could hear what you have to say."*

"That's nice," I said. "What do you want to ask me about?"



"I'm Jewish," Susan said.

"Do you believe in Jesus," I asked?

"No, but I do believe in God. My husband died recently. I have many questions. I am a member of a local synagogue and was raised in a very religious home. I have just always wanted to talk to someone like you."

I spoke to the person in charge of the service and arranged for Susan to stay in the service.

Susan took notes the whole time I spoke. She joined us for a teaching and question and answer time after the service. **Susan, though not ready to accept Jesus just yet, has an open heart and spirit.**

We traded information and will be talking again very soon.

I found out one of the main reasons why God had me at that church.

It was Susan!

You never know.

Many of you have Jewish friends.

God wants to use you in their lives.

How to Contact Us

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Since you never know...

- ◆ Don't give up.
- ◆ Keep asking questions.
- ◆ Pray unceasingly.
- ◆ Use the resources you have.
- ◆ Let us know how we can help.

God may work in a special way...you never know.

PASSOVER **BANQUET 2004**

Our annual Passover Banquet will be held at the J.W. Marriott at Lenox on Saturday evening, April 10th. Last year 500 people joined us for one of our most exciting nights of the year. Make your reservations now! Last year we had a waiting list, so don't procrastinate! We must have you reservations by Friday, April 2nd. We encourage you to bring your friends and small groups as well as your Jewish friends. Please call our office to make reservations at 770-642-4706. You may also order tickets online at:

www.lightofmessiah.org.

Thank You!

We're here because...you never know!

Thank you so much for keeping us out there for people who need us. Your prayers and financial support help to make our ministry possible.

Serving Him,

Murray Tilles...for the staff
 Light of Messiah Ministries