Volume 13 Issue 2



February 2005

## Helping Our People To See

wish vou could be my shadow for a week. I wish you could follow Bert into a nursing home as he ministers to elderly Jewish residents. I wish you could sit next to Casey in the office as she answers the phone and responds to people who want to know more about the Jewish roots of our faith. I wish you could see the faces of the congregants in the churches that we speak in as they, for the first time, see the importance that the Jewish people have in biblical history. I wish you could feel the excitement that we feel as we experience God moving ahead of us, expanding our influence in the Jewish community. I wish...

Please allow me to share a few, recent, e-mails with you. I hope that the communication we receive from others help you to understand what we are doing. As you read the correspondence we get, please share in our excitement.

Date: Mon, 31 Jan 2005 10:35:24 To:lightofmessiah@yahoo.com Subject: set up appointment

Dear Murray,

I left you a message last night on your cell phone. My Jewish friend spent the weekend with me (iced in) and we spent SO much time reading the Bible together, praying, and talking. It was thrilling watch the Lord open her up. I led her daughter to the Lord recently and have been meeting with her, teaching her from the Bible. My friend joined us last Friday. I was able to read Isaiah 53. My friend was flabbergasted, knew exactly who it was talking about, and said, "But Isaiah is in the Old Testament."



She is open to meeting with you. I'm trying to see what works with your schedule. She and I are going to a dinner party Wednesday night (in the Roswell area) so she will be coming to my home. Would you be able to meet with us about 4? I'm checking on clearing her calendar for then.

I was going to send her a link to your website...then questioned doing so before talking with you. She has such "negative" presuppositions about Jews who believe in Jesus that I was afraid she might bolt before the two of you could sit down and talk.

She is much more open to spiritual things than her husband...which is why I think it best for you to meet with her first. What do you think?

Let me know, Name Withheld

Date: Feb 1, 2005 9:48 PM To: Light of Messiah Ministries Subject: RE: Ministry

Murray,

I've been going to our County Jail in downtown Birmingham to preach the

gospel now for about 2 months. It has been a blessing and a challenge. For the most part, the men in the jail are hungrier for the Word that I see sometimes in the church!

Any ways, last Tuesday, I preached on "God Is Real." I spent most of my time talking about how God shows Himself through creation, etc. I often bring up issues regarding Islam because it is a very timely issue. I had a Muslim speak up last Tuesday!

Also, at the end, a self-proclaimed Orthodox Jew came to me. I have no doubt he is Jewish, but I do not know whether he is Orthodox – definitely religious. His name is Shalomi (I hope I spelled it ok).

He began by saying that he did not mean to be rude, but was not allowed to listen to my sermon (he sat in the corner of the jail room). He did say thanks for coming though. I replied that he was very special in the eyes of God and of course he asked, "just because I'm Jewish?" I said, "yes," very simply.

I began to talk to him about Jesus. He said to me (this is what I thought odd) that many Orthodox Jews believe that Jesus was the Messiah, but the problem they have is with Christianity/ Christians. I sincerely apologized to him on behalf of myself and Christianity for what has been done to him, his family, and to his people/nation over all of history. He said it was not necessary, but he received it. Due to jail ministry time constraints, and several other folks to minister to, that was about all we spoke. He was kind, without arrogance. I do not know, and am generally not allowed to ask why the inmates are in jail.

There is a good chance that I will not get to see Shalomi again, but my wife and I have prayed for him. We pray for Israel every morning and night and for the peace of Jerusalem. We often pray for Light of Messiah and do support it. We have studied a fair bit into the Jewish roots of Christianity as well.

Any advice, if I do see him again, how I may further minister to him?

Blessings, John

Date: Feb 2, 2005 1:18 PM
To: lightofmessiah@yahoo.com
Subject: Re: Fwd: Play golf for free!

Murray,

Thanks for checking in on us. We have become closer friends with our Jewish neighbor over the past year. We were privileged to walk through a very troubling time in his life with him and his wife (Catholic). They have expressed to us that they appreciate that they can talk "religion" with us and not feel pressured. They have both expressed that they do not believe a person can be Jewish and Christian. They seem to view it at a choice at the buffet "would you like soup or salad".

In answer to your question, yes I think he is still willing to play golf and talk with you. Let us know when is good for you.

Thank you for your continued dedication to the lost Jewish people of the Atlanta area.

In Christ, Stacy

Date: Wed, 2 Feb 2005 To: lightofmessiah@yahoo.com Subject: need answers

Dear Murray,

Several months ago, I wrote to you about a Jewish friend of mine who is searching for answers. You in turn wrote me a special postcard saying that you were praying for Jamie and for me. Jamie has joined me in a Bible study at a local church. Today was our first



meeting. At the end of the session, Jamie cried and cried. She is so confused. She asked, "How can all the Jews be wrong and only the Christians be right?" She truly had scripture overload and needed some time to read and pray. She also voiced a concern for her grandmother who died a few years ago. Jamie firmly believes that her grandmother is in heaven even though she did not know about Jesus. How do I answer that? How do I keep Jamie from getting too frustrated and overwhelmed?

Please help me, Murray. I love Jamie dearly and believe that God put me in her life to witness to her. I need your advice and wisdom.

I am so thankful for your ministry. I love reading your newsletters. I pray that Light of Messiah will have a new office soon. I also pray that your ministry will continue to change lives for Jesus.

Thank you, Alison

These are only a few of the e-mails we have received in the past few weeks. We have followed up on all requests for help and are seeing fruit in the lives of many. Remember we are here for you. Do keep us in your prayers.

## **How to Contact Us**

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## Passover Banquet(s) 2005

Due to high demand and because Easter and Passover are one month apart this year, we have added another Passover Banquet to our calendar! In addition to our banquet on Saturday evening, March 26th, we will also be having a Passover banquet on Friday evening, April 22nd.

Messianic music team "Yehudi" will be leading us in exciting, lively, worship.

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 expect both night to sell out.

We must have you reservations by Monday, March 21st for the March Passover banquet and by Monday, April 18th for the April banquet.

Bring your friends and church groups, as well as your Jewish friends. Please use the enclosed order form or call our office to make reservations at 770-642-4706.

You may also order tickets online at www.lightofmessiah.org.

## Thank You!

It is humbling to be trusted by so many people to help them with the important relationships in their lives. We are privileged and blessed.

Your prayers and financial support make our ministry possible.

Thank you for caring enough, and trusting us enough, to send us back to the Jewish people with the love of Jesus.

With a grateful heart,

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