



# Light of Messiah Ministries

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

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## Sounds from the Street

**W**e have just returned from New York City where we spent 10 days on the streets talking to people about Jesus. We visited street fairs, ball games, Times Square, city parks, and stood on street corners, distributing literature and talking to those who stopped and were interested. Our “Jews for Jesus” tee shirts identified us and drew questioning, seeking, and even hostile people our way. Our purpose was to raise the banner of Jesus high so that we would make Him known. Our efforts were picked up by the local media. The New York Times, New York Post, and local TV stations covered our ministry and reported on the reaction from the Jewish community.

The streets of New York were filled with people both locals and visitors, many who are spiritually searching and looking for direction in life. Of course our targeted audience was the Jewish community. I was in Manhattan, Casey was a part of the outreach to the Hasidic Jewish community, and Bert was in Long Island (as of the writing of this letter Bert is still in New York). We could not take you with us, so let me share with you some of our experiences from the streets of New York.

### A Conversation in the Subway

The subway is a fun place to be, especially during rush hour. Most of our time is spent distributing literature to people whizzing by on their way to the next train or to work. However there are always curious people who stop to chat. **Following is an interesting conversation I had with a Jewish man named Fred. He was in his late fifties.**



**Fred:** “What is this? (as he looks at the literature) *Oh, Jews for Jesus. You can’t be Jewish and believe in Jesus.*”

**Murray:** “But I am.”

**Fred:** “But you can’t.” (louder)

**Murray:** “But I did.”

**Fred:** “But you can’t.” (louder)

**Murray:** “But I have.”

**Fred:** “What are your children?”

**Murray:** “Jewish Christians.”

**Fred:** “Oy vey” (translated “oh my” as he slaps his forehead)

I spoke to Fred for about 10 minutes. He was honestly confused about how a person can be Jewish and a Christian at the same time. **I told him how I came to faith and even got to tell him about what it is going to be like when Jesus returns.** Fred never really got it, and told me he thought I was crazy, but I know I planted a seed. As he walked away, shaking his head, we wished each other a good Sabbath.

### Words from the Wandering

In addition to the many “thanks”, “God bless”, and “keep up the good work” from Christians, we also receive many interesting comments

from Jewish people who are just passing by and see our tee shirts. Following are several comments I heard over the course of a two day period.

“I feel sorry for you people”

“Get a real job”

“Go to hell”

“You are being deceptive”

“Give it a rest”

“I am a Jew for Jews”

“I am a Jew for Moses”

“Drop dead”

“Don’t even think about it”

“Go learn something”

“You are misleading people”

**And now for my favorite...**

“Where do they grow people like you?”

Of course, we are used to comments like this and, though most of the people who say these things to us are not interested in talking, we will try to engage them in conversation. **Occasionally someone will come back and a fruitful discussion will ensue.**

**At Union Square in Manhattan I was able to talk to Linda and Michael after Linda walked by and said, “You have got to be kidding.”** When I told her I certainly was not, she stopped to talk to me. Michael observed our discussion and joined in. We were then joined by a non-Jewish woman who overheard us talking and joined in as well. Michael gave me his name and address so I could send him more information about Jesus. Linda left without giving me her information but told me she was glad we spoke and would pursue the issue further, on her own.

### A Hasidic Decision

Casey spent her time among the most unreached of the Jewish community, the

Hassidic. **The Hassidic Jewish community is the most religious sect within Judaism.** Their Judaism incorporates mysticism and orthodox adherence to the law of Moses. They are also very reliant upon the teachings of their rabbis. Because they are so religious, the Hassidic community shuns most intercourse with outsiders and prefers to interact mostly with those within the community. Hassidic Jewish people can be the most resistant group to the gospel.

**Casey reports:** My team and I were sent on a long outing in Williamsburg, NY to interact with Jewish people who might be finalizing their Sabbath plans. **This is one of the most religious Jewish areas. We spent the greater part of the time prayerwalking.** The streets were virtually empty because many were inside their homes for the Sabbath. We walked miles and miles and bathed the area in prayer.

I walked up to the very first woman I saw who was out by herself. I asked her if I could speak to her. She was very sweet and agreed to talk to me. Her name was Rachel. She said she wanted to sit in the shade on some steps. I began to share Jesus with her...and she was hungry to hear more. **She had had a friend at the famous Brooklyn Tabernacle, who was her neighbor, who had begun reading scriptures and prophecies with her.** The sowing of those seeds ended up being ready for harvest that day. **And so, on those shady steps in Williamsburg, on the Sabbath no less, Rachel G. prayed with me to receive Jesus as her Lord, Savior and Jewish Messiah!!!** There are no words I can come up with to capture the scene of discreet rejoicing. She even allowed me to write on the Sabbath, so I could get her contact information for a female staff member to follow up with. She agreed to walk with me and meet Oded, my outreach partner. She shared with him what she had done. She also discreetly accepted a gospel of John in Yiddish which I had to slip in her pocket, as no one can carry on Sabbath either. It was an astounding moment. **Please pray for Rachel's growth and protection in the Lord.**



### Times Square Troublemakers

**I (Murray) was approached by two young Jewish students in Times Square one night while distributing literature.** As I reached out to hand them a tract, one grabbed the other's hand and said, "Don't take that." The guy who wanted the literature looked at his friend and said, "I will if I want to." "But it is Jews for Jesus," his friend said. "I don't care, I want to talk to this guy." The friend looked at me and said, "You shouldn't talk to him, he is drunk."

**Our conversation began cordially enough, but as both began to question me, they became more and more hostile until the young man who took my literature was yelling at me on the street.** They argued that I was deceiving the Jewish community and that I was not really Jewish because I rejected the laws of the rabbis. They happened to be on their way to a nearby kosher restaurant and wanted to try to "win me back" to Judaism. Though neither was open and the level of hostility rose, I was calm, and hope that the words I spoke to them will stay in their hearts. **Please pray that both will come to know Jesus as Messiah.**

### How to Contact Us

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## Shalom Baskets and 06/07 Calendars

**Our most exciting outreach is quickly approaching and this outreach involves you.** Our Shalom Basket Outreach will take place the week before Rosh Hashanah (September 15th – 22nd). If you have a Jewish friend, this outreach is an easy and non-confrontational way to express your care for them. Do not delay, we only take the first 120 basket orders. **Orders must be in by September 5th.** You may also order Jewish holiday cards from us. Just give us a call.

We are again carrying Messianic Calendars to help you keep track of the Jewish holidays, pray for the Jewish people, and learn about the Jewish roots of our faith as believers in Jesus.

Call our office to order one by phone (credit card orders), order online at [www.lightofmessiah.org](http://www.lightofmessiah.org), or send \$12.00 per calendar to our P.O. Box made payable to **The Shalom Store.**

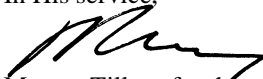
See the enclosed order forms and information.

## Thank You!

Our summer outreach efforts have been exciting and fruitful. Many Jewish people are hearing the Good News of their Messiah. Thousands of seeds have been sown. **The Name of Jesus is being proclaimed to the Jewish people He loved so dearly.**

**Thank you for supporting us. Thank you for praying for us. Thank you for supporting us financially.** Thank you for sending us out to "the Lost Sheep of the House of Israel."

In His service,

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