



Light of Messiah Ministries

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

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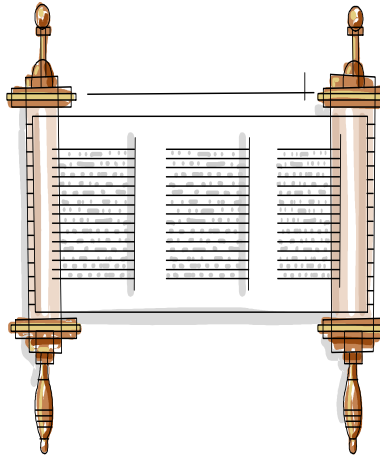
Bible Studies All Around

I 've said it before and I will say it again. The best way for us to meet Jewish people is through you. At the risk of sounding redundant, I want you to know that most Jewish people we meet with and lead to Jesus are contacts from those who receive this letter or have seen us at their church. The Body of Christ is supposed to work together. It is through the relationship building process that contacts are made and people are most effectively reached with the message of Jesus. **When we pool our resources and share our strengths everyone benefits and the Gospel is advanced in a more powerful way.**

The main reason we speak in churches is not to raise financial support for our mission. The financial benefit is secondary and comes as a result of individuals hearing our burden and responding as the Lord moves on their hearts. **Our main goal in the local church is to help people understand the Jewish roots of our faith so that they may be empowered and convicted to reach Jewish people themselves.** For people with Jewish friends, our ministry becomes a resource through which this goal is accomplished.

Our upcoming Shalom Basket Outreach is but one example of how we help to empower believers to reach their Jewish friends. We also want to help you in another personal way. **We would like to come to your small group or Bible study to teach, answer questions, and encourage you in understanding the Jewish people and your Jewish friends.**

Many of you assume that we only speak in churches for large groups of people. That is not the case. One of



the best ways for us to help you and your church is to visit one of your small group gatherings. Many of our best meetings and most profitable contacts have been made in a small group setting outside the context of a regular church service.

We have ministered at neighborhood Bible studies, men's and women's Bible studies (that meet during the day or in the evening), couples studies, corporate Bible studies, homeschool groups, and Sunday school classes. We have even been asked to teach at Beth Moore studies, Bible Study Fellowship classes, Community Bible Studies, and Disciple Bible Studies. Sometimes a Sunday school class will have a special get together on a Saturday evening, or another night of the week, so we can answer questions about the Bible from a Jewish perspective.

The questions that many individuals have are common. *"What do Jewish people think about the afterlife?"*, *"Why do Jewish people reject Jesus as Messiah?"*, *"What do Jewish people believe about blood sacrifice and*

atonement since there is no more Temple or sacrificial system?", and most importantly, *"How do I talk to my Jewish friends about Jesus?"* These are just a few of the many questions that people have that we can answer in a Bible study setting.

Bible study groups create intimacy.

It is difficult to have the same kind of discussion and interaction in a church that one might have in a smaller Bible study setting. Food and fellowship are important parts of a meeting like this!

An intimate atmosphere is also a place where seekers feel more comfortable. **I have met many Jewish people at small group Bible studies or a testimony sharing time.** Most people feel more comfortable in a neighborhood clubhouse or in someone's living room. I have also conducted Bible studies at Starbuck's and in restaurants.

In March I did a Passover demonstration for a group of about 25 ladies in a subdivision clubhouse. Throughout the Passover and during the question and answer time I noticed a lady standing in the back, listening intently. During the question and answer time she raised her hand. *"Murray,"* she said, *"I am Jewish and married to a Catholic. He is not religious. I feel like God is doing something in my life. I have never met a Jewish person who believes in Jesus before. This is fascinating. We have a small child who is beginning to ask a lot of questions. What do I do?"* I only spent a few minutes talking to her in front of the whole group and then asked her to stick around to talk after we were done.

After the study was over and most of the ladies left I sat down with Karen

and shared Jesus with her. I showed her the Messianic prophecies in the Old Testament and encouraged her to accept Jesus as her Savior. **She was ready and as tears welled up in her eyes she prayed to accept Him into her life!** That neighborhood Bible study created the informal atmosphere necessary for Karen to feel comfortable to not only attend, but ask questions and consider Jesus for herself. Most importantly, now all of the ladies at the study know her and relationships have been established.

I am now brainstorming with a few groups to teach in their area. **Let me share some ideas with you. Maybe we can find a way to minister together to reach Jewish people with the message of the Messiah Jesus.**

Neighborhood Bible Studies

If you have a Bible study in your neighborhood we can come to speak at your clubhouse or in someone's home. We will share a testimony, answer questions, or teach on the Jewish holidays. No group is too small. I have spoken to neighborhood groups from five to fifty people. You may invite the whole neighborhood or just invite people who you know personally. Some neighborhood groups just want us to educate the Christians in the neighborhood on how to share with their Jewish friends. Others want to make our presence an opportunity for outreach.

Men's and Women's Weekly Bible Studies

Do you have a Bible study group that meets during the week? Are you studying a book of the Bible? Do you have questions about the Jewish roots of the Scriptures? Are you wondering what Jewish people believe? We would love to help you out! Even if your group is a formal/structured study such as Beth Moore, Bible Study Fellowship, Disciple, or Community Bible Study, perhaps you can take a session to have us come in and answer questions. Talk to your Bible study leader. **We're Jewish. We will bring our unique Jewish Christian perspective to the issues.**



Office Bible Studies

I have had the opportunity to teach at several Bible studies that meet in major corporate offices. Oftentimes employees will have a study with co-workers. Occasionally a business will sponsor a Bible study for their employees. These kinds of studies are great for businessmen, lawyers, and other professionals to have before work begins or during their lunch hour. They are also great studies to which you might invite curious friends!

Sunday School Classes

We are not able to talk to individual Sunday school classes on a Sunday morning. **Perhaps your Sunday school class has questions. Regardless of the size of your class we can meet with you and teach your class on a day other than Sunday.** How about a Sunday school class cookout on a Friday night or Saturday? We will come to speak and answer your questions about the Jewish people. It's a fun, interesting, and educational time of fellowship. You can also invite friends who do not go to church to an event like this!

Homeschool Groups

One of the most fun groups for us to teach is the homeschool group. We

have conducted Passover demonstrations for thousands of homeschooled children and their families. Children love to learn about the Jewish holidays because Jesus celebrated them! Our staff speaks in several groups a year. **We believe it is imperative for us to instill within our children an understanding of the importance of the Jewish people and the Jewish roots of our faith.** Our children must grow up with a love for the Jewish people. Our children need to know how to sensitively share their faith with their Jewish friends and business associates when they get older. Homeschool co-ops and families can have us come to teach about the Jewish people and holidays. Hanukkah and Passover are especially fun holidays to learn about.

We are now in the process of finalizing our 2004 fall schedules and looking ahead to 2005.

Give us a call. We would love to come to speak at your Bible study or small group. We can make arrangements for any group of people. Please call our office and let us know how we might be able to help you out.

Thank You!

Please don't forget to pray for us during our busy summer of outreach. You might see us at Braves games, during July 4th festivities, or at Stone Mountain Park talking to people about Messiah Jesus.

As always, thank you for keeping us moving along. Thank you for standing with us through your prayers. Thank you for supporting us financially. **Thank you for loving my Jewish people enough to send the incredible message of Jesus back to them.**

We are so grateful.

Serving Him,

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

How to Contact Us

Light of Messiah Ministries
P.O. Box 501179
Atlanta, GA 31150
Phone: 770-642-4706
Fax: 770-642-0319
E-mail: lightofmessiah@yahoo.com
www.lightofmessiah.org