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What We Do and DON"T Do

ur ministry has a single focus. We want to take Jesus back to the Jewish people. When I say "back to the Jewish people" it is not as though they understand we are taking Him "back". I am stating the fact that He came to us through the Jewish community. He is one of THEM. They gave Him to us. They just don't recognize it...yet. Of course, there are many individual Jewish people coming to know Jesus as Messiah. But, as a community the Jewish people will not accept Jesus and recognize His Messiahship until He reveals Himself in glory at His Second Coming (Zech. 12:10). Until then, we work with Jewish people one, by one, by one, looking for those who "will believe."

We do not feed the homeless, take care of orphans, build houses, school the unschooled, or counsel single pregnant women. We do not do prison ministry (unless there is a Jewish person in prison), take school supplies to the needy, or cloth the naked. We don't do those things because Jewish people are not, for the most part, in need of food, clothing, or shelter. Jewish people are, for the most part, well educated, financially secure, and live in nice homes. Materially, the Jewish community is well taken care of and has been blessed by God. All Jewish people need...IS JESUS.

We have a big job...a difficult job. It is our job to help people understand the great need for Jewish outreach when there are no visible physical needs within the Jewish community. You see, it is human nature to want to see the physical results of what we give. Let me explain.



My family has given clothes to homeless people and food to the hungry. When we give, especially if we give directly ourselves, we can see the results of our giving immediately. We receive instant gratification (even though instant gratification is not why we give...it still feels good). We know that what we have given immediately impacted that person or family by the look on the person's face, by their expression of gratitude, and by their words of thanks. If we give to a ministry who ministers to those in physical need we can see the pictures of clothed people, houses built, or inner city children having fun at a summer camp. It is all needed, beautiful, ministry. People are being touched both materially AND spiritually.

Our ministry is a little different. I can't show anyone pictures of Jewish individuals who we have physically fed or clothed. I can't show anyone pictures of a new home we built for a homeless Jewish family, or the faces of Jewish children whose lives have been touched by a summer camp we provide for underprivileged Jewish kids. I can't because those Jewish people do not ex-

ist here in the United States (for the most part).

I can't show you pictures of us feeding the hungry with physical food...or clothing the naked with physical clothes. But, I can tell you stories of how we feed hungry Jewish people with the Word of God and clothe (spiritually) naked Jewish people with the righteousness of Jesus!

- I can tell you that I prayed with two Jewish ladies to accept Jesus the first half of this year; Maureen and Elena.
- I can tell you stores from our Myrtle Beach and New York City outreaches where we spoke to dozens of Jewish people about Jesus.
- I can tell you about Jewish people in Sandy Springs, GA and Las Vegas, NV with whom I am talking right now. They are open to Jesus.
- I can tell you about the Jewish man I met recently who listened to my testimony, read Isaiah 53 for the first time, and took a testimony book.
- I can tell you about the numerous college students who have Jewish friends who are calling our ministry for help.
- I can tell you about the churches and individuals who are using our ministry as a resource.

There are times I get frustrated. I feel that ministries like ours get lost in the vast array of other ministries sharing the gospel and doing humanitarian

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work at the same time. "All" we do is evangelism.

Sometimes I attend missions conferences where I feel like an afterthought. Or, we are overlooked because we are a local ministry and do not usually "go overseas" to share the Gospel. In Jewish ministry we do not have to cross literal oceans...we have to cross oceans of misunderstanding. Jewish ministry is not the "glamorous" ministry these days. I don't know if we ever have been...really.

It is our job to help people remember that neither Jesus nor the Apostle Paul overlooked the Jewish community. In fact, the Jewish people were the focus of Jesus' ministry. They have always had a special place in God's heart and plan.

It is an unfortunate reality that the Jewish community is, to this day, an overlooked people group. Yet, Jesus sent His disciples out beginning in Jerusalem...because Jerusalem was the center of Jewish life in that day. He told His disciples to go to "the Lost Sheep of the House of Israel." Paul, as an "apostle to the Gentiles" always began his ministry in the synagogue, to Jewish people first, and always communicated his great love for his people and desire to "see them saved."

The church began as a Jewish movement. If it were not for the Jewish people we would not have what we have as Christians. They have given us so much. We OWE it to the Jewish people to take Jesus back to them.

I am writing this letter to passionately ask you to pray about how the Lord would have you be involved in our ministry as we come to the end of the year. We are having a great impact among the Jewish people in Atlanta and the southeast. We want to expand our efforts to the Jewish community and through the church. I believe God wants us to be even more effective, visible, and fruitful.

As a ministry we are working very hard to "take the rough edges" off of



Jewish evangelism. We realize that most people have a difficult time sharing the gospel with anyone let alone their Jewish friends, coworkers, or business associates. We recognize the fact that people are scared to talk to Jewish people about Jesus. We constantly battle the false teaching that Jewish people are not in need of Jesus to go to heaven because they are "God's Chosen People."

However, we will not be dissuaded or discouraged. We are developing more strategies to get the church and individual believers involved in "taking Jesus back to the Jewish people". Some of the events and programs which we are doing such as prayer walking or visiting local synagogues with interested Christians produce evangelistic fruit...it gets people involved. Other outreaches such as our Shalom Basket outreach builds bridges between Christians and their Jewish friends. Gospel sharing is fostered and encouraged.

We are, on an ongoing basis, helping numerous believers share Jesus with their Jewish friends. And, of course, our staff is always meeting with Jewish people one on one, to bring the Good News of Messiah to them.

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 lightofmessiah.org "All" we do is evangelism. I put "all" in quotation marks because, in our estimation, the most important thing we can do for anyone is bring them Jesus. We are working hard to take Messiah Jesus back to the people He loved so much.

Pray the Lord of the Harvest will give us more fruit from our labor.

THANK YOU!

We do serve an amazing God whose heart breaks for those who are lost and in need of His salvation.

Thank you for sending us out to the Jewish community with that message of peace and salvation in Jesus. Thank you for praying for us. Thank you for standing with us financially. May the Lord richly bless you!

Blessings in Messiah,

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

Light of Messiah Ministries is recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization. We are members of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. All gifts are tax deductible. <u>All gifts received by December 31,</u> <u>2013 will be receipted by</u> <u>January 31, 2014</u>. You may also donate online at lightofmessiah.org

We are also able to accept donations of appreciated stock, one of the best ways to maximize your giving. Please contact our office and your financial advisor for information on how to give to Jewish ministry in creative ways.