



# Light of Messiah Ministries

...Bringing Jesus to the Jewish People

Volume 27 Issue 1



January 2019

## Make 2019 A Year Of Sharing Jesus

**A**nother one of those conversations happened the other day. Someone's life had taken an unexpected turn. He's been out of work, getting older, his kids are out of the home, he's down, tired, confused, and seemingly trapped in a reality that he never would have thought would have been there just a few years ago. **Life is filled with uncertainty.**

Have you ever gotten the news...the pathology report is not good, I'm sorry but your position has been eliminated...a loved one is gone? **We are all constantly confronted with circumstances forcing us to evaluate who we are in relationship to the world around us.** Oftentimes circumstances beyond our control stretch our faith, challenge our thinking, and create questions, that may have never been there if life did not take that one...unexpected turn.

Personal circumstances change...but so do "world news" realities. Do you remember when...Kennedy was shot, the Challenger exploded, the World Trade Center fell? Each of those events are markers pointing to the reality that not much is secure in the world around us.

### **We are not in control.**

We hear the news every day. War in Iraq and Syria, upcoming Israeli elections, nuclear proliferation, stock market volatility, civilian catastrophes around the world, massacres in Africa, economic weakness, freak weather, global warming, and viruses resistant to current remedies.

**Whether one recognizes any of these events as somehow being connected to biblical prophecy fulfilled, or just a part of life, these events compel us all to contemplate forces greater than ourselves.**



- Physical ailments force us to examine the brevity and finality of life. The clock can't be turned back.

- Natural disasters force us to face our inability to control our surroundings. Scientists have yet to find a way to stop a hurricane.

- Wars force us to face the ugliness of man's inhumanity to man, and the depravity of the human condition. No matter how hard we try, peace is illusive.

- Moral decay forces us to face the fact that mankind is sinful and desperately in need of change.

Like Peter...we see the storm.

I met with a Jewish person shortly after the terrorist massacre in the Pittsburgh synagogue. His question was, "Why do they hate us?" He seemed scared.

**I explained to him that hatred is a condition.** If we were able to "make the world a better place in which to live" the world would be a much bet-

ter place today than it was a few years ago. But it's not. It's worse. Antisemitism is on the rise. The world is a much less stable place...seemingly teetering on the edge of a big crash. **Those of us who believe are exhorted to face troubles in a different way.**

Yes, the world is in turmoil. Whether the events are natural disasters or brought upon ourselves because of the sinfulness of humanity, events and circumstances around the world today are provoking people to think. **Your Jewish friends, business associates and neighbors are thinking. There is hope. And, we need to respond.**

(By the way, though our ministry is focussed on communicating the message of Jesus to the Jewish community, God is a nondiscriminatory lover of all of humanity! His arm is not too short to save. Anything written in this letter applies to everyone...to the Jew first..and also to the gentile!)

So, what can you do?

### **Pray For Your Jewish Friends Who Are Struggling, Fearful, and Searching**

Having a spiritual mindset and a God centered existence means we are to view our circumstances through a biblical grid. **All of life's events are filtered through the fingers of a sovereign, grace filled, and loving God, who cares about His creation.** In order for us to be engaged in what He is doing we must spend time communicating with Him.

**Take some time to pray for your Jewish friends. Ask God to open their eyes.** Ask Him to use their circumstance, and the circumstances in the world around them, to get their attention. Pray as I have for my family for 40 years, "Please

*God, do what- ever you have to do to get their attention.”* Ask the Lord to use you, to give you boldness and courage; to give you wisdom on how to best communicate your faith with your Jewish friends.

We are commanded to “*pray for the peace of Jerusalem.*” Psalm 122:6 **Real and lasting peace, both in this life and eternally, can only come through Jesus.** Pray for your unbelieving friends, now. Pray for God to give you the wisdom and courage to talk to them. Now.

### **Take The Opportunity To Share Your Testimony**

Jesus came to bring us peace in the midst of our tumultuous existence. He came to calm the storm, heal, comfort, and bring peace in the midst of the uncertainty and craziness of life. **He came to bring sense to the senselessness of the world, and hope to the hopeless.** Knowing Jesus should give us peace.

**Your testimony is vitally important to your Jewish friend. Jewish people assume you were born a Christian.** No one is born a Christian. Becoming a Christian is a step of faith taken at some point in an individual’s life. The choice to accept Jesus as one’s own is life changing.

**Tell your Jewish friend how you became a believer in Jesus.** Help them to understand that your peace comes from your faith. Tell them a story of how God has healed you, comforted you, or given you peace during a time of crisis.

### **Ask Lots Of Questions**

Questions like, “*What do you think about the current situation in the Middle East?*”, “*Are you fearful at all?*”, “*Do you think there will ever be peace?*”, or “*What do Jewish people think about the terrorism and tension between the Israelis and Palestinians?*”, will open a person up and give you the opportunity to learn more about their world view.

Personal questions are ok too. “*How’s life...really?*” is a great one.

**Others love to answer questions when posed in a gentle and honest way.** Asking questions is one of the best ways to enter into a person’s life without coming across too strongly.



### **Listen Well**

Once you ask the questions listen to the response. Don’t ask unless you are really willing to listen with your heart, not just your head. Perhaps they will open up, share their real feelings, or ask you a question in return. As you listen pray for God’s words and wisdom.

### **Open The Word Of God**

Jesus told us that there would be signs before His return. Ask your Jewish friend if you can share with them some passages out of the Bible that may bring them some understanding or comfort.

You can to share passages from the New Testament which explain the signs of the coming of Messiah. You may want to share a Psalm with them if they are going through a tough time. Have them read Isaiah 53 to you out loud and ask them who they think it sounds like. Let the Word of God speak to their heart.

### **Be A Good Friend And Example Of Faithfulness**

Your Jewish friend will see in you an example of faith, genuineness, and love, if you live it before them. Be there for them in times of need or doubt. Make sure that you are a good example of

friendship. When things get tough, when life gets confusing, when tragedy strikes, YOU will be the person to whom they come.

Make sure that you always remind them that the love you have and the friendship you bring comes to them as a result of your love for Jesus! Anyone can love others, but only believers can truly love in the name of Jesus. Unless we tell others the reason and motivation for our love, we are no different than anyone else.

As you share your testimony and your hope, as you listen, and as you open God’s word, His spirit will do the real work in their heart.

**Perhaps you’ve read this letter but don’t have a Jewish friend or know any Jewish people. Apply the principles with anyone in your life who might need of the love of God.** And please pray for our ministry as we reach out to the Jewish community with the message of Jesus and help others to do the same.

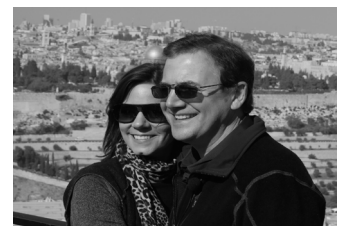
## **Thank You!!**

Our ministry is here to encourage you to pray for the Jewish people and to help them hear the message of Jesus.

**As always, thank you for caring enough, and trusting us enough, to send us back to the Jewish people with the love of Messiah Jesus! Happy 2019!**

In His service,

Murray Tilles...for the staff and for those in Israel...we’re looking to the future!!



JOIN US FOR A LIFE CHANGING TOUR OF ISRAEL IN OCTOBER OF 2019!! VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS...

### **How to Contact Us**

**Light of Messiah Ministries  
P.O. Box 501179  
Atlanta, GA 31150  
Phone: 770-642-4706**

**E-mail:  
lightofmessiahmin@gmail.com  
www.lightofmessiah.org**