



Light of Messiah Ministries

...Bringing Jesus to the Jewish People

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“I am Jewish and a Seeker”

“I am a seeker.” Not often do I hear those words from a Jewish person. I guess it is happening more now than when I began ministry to my people 25 years ago. But, still, I don't hear those words enough. **When I do hear them I know that God is surely at work.** I heard them recently after a local Passover event at a church here in Atlanta. And, yes, the woman who approached me with those words did ask Jesus into her heart that night. But there was more surrounding her presence at the Passover and a lesson God reinforced that evening. Let me explain.

It was an uneventful Passover service until the end. There were probably 250 people in attendance. The room was set so that everyone was around tables participating in the Passover. People had the opportunity to taste the elements and “experience” what a real Passover is like for a Jewish family. I include Jesus, of course.

After the service ended I had the time for questions and answers. **So, I took about thirty minutes to share my story, answer questions, and tell people about our ministry.** The questions were relevant and practical. Several people asked me about how to talk to their Jewish friends about Jesus. I encouraged them in their witness, we prayed, and the evening was over.

It was then that I was approached by a Jewish lady in her mid forties. She walked up to me, extended her hand, and said, *“I am Jewish and came out of curiosity tonight. My Christian friend brought me. I have been reading the Bible and coming to church. I am a seeker. Your message and story spoke*



to me. What do I need to do now?” I invited her to sit down at a table and we talked.

During our conversation another man stopped by and introduced himself as Jewish person who had also accepted Jesus as Messiah. He shared his story. God was doing a work in this lady's heart. I opened the Bible. We read Isaiah 53 and talked about the Suffering Servant of God. **I shared the gospel with her and communicated God's unending pursuit of each person.** I asked her, *“Are you ready to ask Jesus into your life, commit yourself to Him, and receive His love and forgiveness?”* “Yes”, she said with tears in her eyes. I told her to go get her friend who brought her so that she could be a part of the moment. We prayed. **All heaven rejoiced as this young Jewish woman gave her heart to Jesus!**

A couple of days later I received an email from another Christian lady who had brought a Jewish friend to the exact same service. She was not so enthusiastic about the evening. She wrote, *“I have to say, that I thought that this type of Passover event was far*

more appropriate for Christians who wanted to learn about what happens at Passover and how to reach their Jewish friends. I did not think it was appropriate for Christians to bring their Jewish friends to. It did not seem to be sensitive at all to Jewish people who are coming to church for the first time. I felt uncomfortable, because it looked like I brought her in order to tell her what she needed. We know that she needs Jesus, but I think that it could have been communicated in a more sensitive way...”

“On a happier note, my Jewish friend did ask me questions about Christianity, etc. which was great! She also wants to read the book “Betrayed” with me. So, that is also a huge blessing. I hope she follows through with it...”

My initial reaction was one of shock. I immediately wanted to defend myself and our ministry. **However, I knew that the right thing to do was to encourage the woman in her witness to her Jewish friend.** God works in different ways in everyone's life. **Maybe He would use this circumstance for her Jewish friend to see Jesus more clearly.**

I called the lady who wrote me the email. **We talked for quite a while and had a very fruitful time discussing the evening.** She had already been told that another Jewish lady had accepted Jesus that night. So, obviously, God spoke to one woman's heart. I told her that God could speak to her Jewish friend's heart as well. **Maybe she could use any misunderstanding to bring understanding. Perhaps God would use an “offense” to open the door for reconciliation.** We prayed, and I had some books sent to her.

A few weeks later I received another email from this Christian lady. It read, "Just wanted to let you know of the latest....My Jewish friend is going out west next week and wanted some reading materials for the plane. She asked me if I ever got the book, "Betrayed". I told her I sure did! So, I am going to give it to her to read on her trip next week. She is going on Thursday and Friday and through the weekend of next week. Please pray that she will be very touched and moved by the book and want to know more about Christ when she returns from her trip! The Lord really opened this door for me to give her the book!"

What exciting news! **God works through all circumstances to reach those He is calling.** One Jewish lady was ready to accept Jesus the night of the Passover. Her heart had been prepared. The other Jewish lady was not ready and needs time to ponder the issues. **But God is sovereign and will draw anyone who is open to hear the message of salvation.** We need to remember that it is our job to proclaim the message. We need to be available to share the Good News with those the Lord puts in our path. **It is the work of the Holy Spirit to draw hearts to the Father and open the eyes of the blind.** He is the One who brings salvation. And we never know when that is going to happen.

Please pray that more Jewish people will be open to the message of Jesus and give their lives to Him. Pray for our ministry to effectively bring the message of Jesus to the Jewish community. **Pray for those believers who have Jewish friends, that their testimony will be strong.** And pray for the Jewish lady who came to the Passover that night who has yet to accept her Messiah. May God open her eyes and may she come to know Jesus soon!

Shalom Baskets

Our most exciting and effective outreach is quickly approaching and this outreach involves you! Our Sha-



lom Basket Outreach will take place the week before Rosh Hashanah (September 11th-18th).

A **Shalom Basket** is a basket filled with holiday goodies for your Jewish friend. They are beautiful. You may order them through our ministry and we can deliver them for you. **This year we are also encouraging you to pick up and deliver your basket yourself.** It is a great way to deepen your relationship with your Jewish friends. **Supplies are limited, so, get your order in soon.**

Order your Shalom Baskets by calling our office (credit card orders only), **order online at our web site**, or send \$28.00 per basket to our P.O. Box made payable to The Shalom Store. When ordering Shalom Baskets please give us delivery information as well as your phone number and mailing information. Orders must be in by September 1st.

You can be a blessing to someone who cannot afford a basket by making an extra donation this month in support of our Shalom Basket out-

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reach. We also bring baskets to our Russian Jewish contacts who do not yet know the Lord. Send one to them!

2009/2010 Messianic Calendars

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. This year we are supporting a Messianic ministry in Israel by using their calendars.

The calendars are beautifully illustrated with scenes from Scripture. **If you desire to celebrate the Jewish holidays in your home, or want to pray for the Jewish people, this calendar is invaluable.** They make beautiful gifts as well.

Call our office to order one by phone (credit card orders), **order online at www.lightofmessiah.org**, or send \$14.00 per calendar to our P.O. Box made payable to **The Shalom Store.**

Thank You!

Summer ministry and outreach is going well. We still have many other upcoming events planned. We are meeting with Jewish people regularly. We are planting gospel seeds and working hard. Your prayers are sustaining us as we bring the message of shalom (peace) to a special group of people. Please continue to lift us during this busy outreach time.

Thank you for standing with us in our efforts to reach Jewish people with the message of Jesus. Your prayers and financial support help to make our ministry possible.

Rejoicing in Him,


Murray Tilles

Light of Messiah Ministries