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Newsletter

April 2021



STEVEN BARRY KAPLAN, PRESIDENT JEWISH OUTREACH INTERNATIONAL (Atlanta, Georgia)-God bless you and thank you for supporting our ministry!

HOW DO YOU WITNESS TO JEWISH PEOPLE?-I mentor a Jewish believer with some emotional challenges. He calls asking for prayer and guidance. He told me about his uncle who is a Jewish non-believer and wanted advice on how to share with him. I told him to pray and be led by the Holy Spirit. Not pushing beliefs and first listening to what they have to say makes them feel obligated to ask what your beliefs are. It is helpful to know scriptures and answers to potential questions, but you need to meet people where they are. Pray for and love them!

YOU NEVER KNOW?-There is an Israeli Man at the Israeli restaurant I often eat at. He is dumbfounded I am Jewish and believe in Jesus. He asks me questions, in front of the others, which I answer so all can hear! Then he tells people about my beliefs and ask if they want to believe in Jesus! He introduced me to an Israeli, I recognized from our Hanukkah Outreach, who wouldn't take a Hanukkah gift. It turns out the seemingly hostile Israel is married to the owner! Now that we have been introduced, he is very nice to me!

DON'T QUOTE THE NEW TESTAMENT!-While eating my lunch at an Israeli restaurant, a local Anti-Missionary Rabbi was in the store shopping. He put down his groceries and invited himself to sit at my table. I've known him for many years and he once debated me in front of his class at an Orthodox synagogue. He began criticizing me, threatening to have me thrown out and tried his best to discourage me from believing in the Messiah! When he finally stopped for air, I simply quoted Isaiah 53:6, "**We all like sheep have gone astray, each to his own way and the Lord has laid upon Him the iniquity of us all.**" The Rabbi told me not to quote the New Testament! I told him that verse was from Isaiah, and you should have seen the look on his face!

IT NEVER FAILS-I usually pray about what t-shirt to wear, and usually only wear my Hebrew ones when I specifically go out to witness to Israelis. My laundry sometimes determines my wardrobe. My only clean shirts were the Hebrew ones so I wore one to the

post office. Praise God the Israeli man on line behind me said he liked my shirt. I asked if he liked Jesus, but he said that was not something he could believe in? I wore a Hebrew t-shirt to church one Sunday. I noticed someone in the pew in front of me wearing a t-shirt with Hebrew writing on it. It turns out it was a Jewish believer who was visiting my church and we compared shirts!

MINISTRY ENHANCEMENTS-The Lord blessed our ministry with a web designer who is maintaining and constantly improving our website! If you know how, please go to Google and review Jewish Outreach International! Since the Israelis like to look at our van at the restaurants, we added more decals for them:



Sincerely,
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"Again I ask: Did they stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Not at all! Rather, because of their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious. But if their transgression means riches for the world, and their loss means riches for the Gentiles, how much greater riches will their fullness bring!"-Romans 11:11-12



**EDDIE & LURA BECKFORD
(Harrisburg, Pennsylvania)**

Lura Wrote:

“Shalom Family & Friends!

Happy Passover! We had a great time at our Seder with so much participation; it was honoring to the Lord. The joy of fellowship and the solemnity of communion during the 3rd cup (redemption) made the Seder beautiful and uplifting to us all. Thanks for praying for Dennis & Betsy – they are done with Covid and participated in the Passover Seder! We thank the Lord for their healing!

Eddie & I went to a different kind of dinner with the Vietnam Veterans to commemorate Vietnam Veterans Day on Mar. 29. The camaraderie of the vets is a bit different than fellowship of believers, but it was touching just the same. We made some new friends and had great conversation with a couple sitting with us. I was able to share our book with them. We invited them to come and hear Eddie speak at a church on April 18. The pastor of the church is a Vietnam Vet himself.

We are in the planning stage for the “Love Your Neighbor” Walk in Harrisburg. Rep. Sheryl Delosier (from the House of Representatives) has graciously agreed to speak at the rally at the end of the Walk. Our own Steve Kaplan will also speak, plus we have Messianic dancers

who volunteered to come and dance. We are still looking for musicians to volunteer their time & talents for this outreach. **Please pray** for the Lord to motivate believers to take part in this **witness to the Capital City of Pennsylvania**. We are excited for this opportunity! I have painted a few signs for people to carry and still have a few more to paint!

Eddie & I are doing well – we are both healthy. The Lord is bringing several people who are trying to turn their life around and walk in health. So we have formed a little group and are texting one another with questions and encouragement. May the Lord bless you richly as you seek Him and continue to grow in Grace and Knowledge of Yeshua! Thank you for your support in many ways! The rewards of living for Christ are literally out of this world! Much love in Him! Love in Yeshua, Lura (& Eddie) Beckford lura_eddie@hotmail.com”

"Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God."-2 Corinthians 5:20



CYRIL GORDON (Southern California)

Cyril wrote:

Greetings from the front lines of evangelism in Los Angeles, A.K.A Gomorrah,

Well, Praise God, it's been another month of victories for the Lord's Kingdom in one of the darkest cities in the world-- Los Angeles, California. **Thanks to your faithful prayers and support**, the gospel is boldly and effectively being preached by me and my ministry team to the masses that visit Venice Beach and to the Jews in the local synagogues, **and the Devil's not happy about it.**

This month is also my 55th Birthday,....Oy Vey....55? That sounds so old, it means that I'm almost 60! Yikes. Well, with God's grace it means I could have another 20 years to serve our Lord Jesus before I'm called Home. I love my Jewish mother Sylvie Gordon she STILL sends me Birthday money at my age!!! My mother sacrificed her whole life to raise my brother Patrick and me as a single mom in a strange land. She doesn't know the Lord yet, but we're working on her every chance we get, that's me and my brother, who came to faith in Jesus a year after me.

Breakthrough in the Synagogues!

As many of you know, I have been diligently reasoning with my Jewish people in the synagogues like the Apostle Paul did in the Book of Acts for two years now. As I participate in many of their events such as: Torah studies, Bar Mitzvah's, and Shabbat services, the Lord has been bringing to me those that are thirsting for Living water and I have been able to share the gospel with them privately outside the synagogue. So far, I have met with about a half a dozen Jews secretly. Recently, I had a breakthrough at a Men's Minyan meeting I have been attending as one of the Jewish attendees named Jay contacted me about meeting privately. During our meeting, I was able to share part of my testimony with him. We talked for more than two hours and he barely let me go. Jay is a retired lawyer and was the President of the synagogue for a long time, he was raised in an Orthodox Jewish family from the East Coast, but has since embraced reform Judaism. Jay met with me a second time and was amazed when I had him read from the Hebrew Holy Scriptures Isaiah chapter 53 that speaks of Jesus, and Jeremiah chapter 31 that speaks of the giving of a New Covenant to the nation of Israel. Jay is now wrestling with the Lord regarding what I showed him in the Bible and needs our prayers that his eyes might be open to the truth.

As we invade the enemy's territory at Venice beach, we run into a lot of opposition. So, fellow Jewish Levite believer in Jesus-- Arthur Perles (Bottom pic, right side, next to me) and I come prepared to go to battle by blowing our shofars and calling on the Lord to fight for us as the Lord instructed Moses to do when confronted by the enemy in the book of Numbers 10:9, as it is written:

***“When you go to war in your land against the enemy who oppresses you, then you shall sound an alarm with the trumpets, and you will be remembered before the Lord your God, and you will be saved from your enemies.*”**

We blow our shofars right in front of the "Gate of Hell" sculpture at Venice Beach Notice that I've highlighted where the upside down cross is located in the middle of the sculpture. This 60 foot tall abomination is located at the southern most part of Venice Beach where the flagpoles are, and is where the most violence occurs. People are found dead there all the time, and that is also where there is the most violent opposition to the preaching of the gospel. One of our Ministry Members was assaulted there recently.

It Was Like in the Movie "The Exorcist"

A teenaged girl came up to our Free Bibles table at Venice Beach and grabbed a New Testament, ripped out the book of Revelation, and then tried to defile it in a way a that I can't say. When her caretakers tried to stop her, a deep voice spoke out of her growling. Immediately, in the name of Jesus, me and my ministry team came against the demonic power that possessed her, but the demon refused to look me in the eyes and give me its name as I confronted it. As we battled her demon to weaken its hold on her, it asked her caretaker in a deep voice to "take her back to her cage", and they left before she could be delivered. Please pray for this poor girl's deliverance and salvation.

Click on this link to see part of the encounter with the demonized girl:

<https://www.facebook.com/1324941709/videos/10223981500308410/>

Thanks again for all your prayers and support!

Shalom,
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Friend me on FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/cyril.gordon>

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