

For Zion's Sake

Third Quarter 2013 Jewish Year 5773

בשדרך לבבך וסרתם ועברתם אלהים אומרים
שתזויתם להם וזרה אף יהוה בכם ועצר את
שמים ולא יהיה מטר והאדמה לא תתן את יבול
גבולתם מהרה מעל הארץ הטבה אשר יהוה נתתם
עמותם את דברי אלה על לבבכם ועל נפשכם והשרתם
תם לאות על ידכם והיו לשונות בין חייכם למדת
תם את בניכם לדבר בפי שבתך בשדרך וכל
דרך ובשכך ובהומר ופחתם על מנוחת
שעריך לחעי ירכו ימיכם וימי בניכם וימי
שך ושביו יהוה לאבותיכם לתת להם פימי

KING OF THE UNIVERSE

**THE GOD OF ABRAHAM,
ISAAC AND JACOB**

**“Praise Him for His mighty works. Praise His Unequaled Greatness...
let everything alive give praises to the Lord” – Psalm 150:2, 6 (LB).**



Christian Friends of Israel-Jerusalem

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For Zion's Sake

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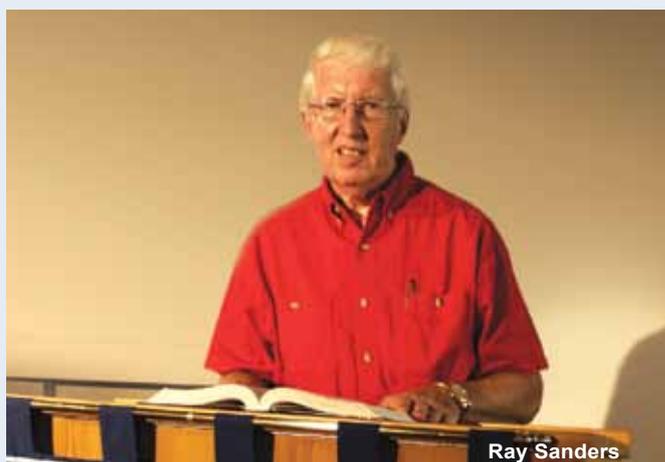
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Director's Letter



Ray Sanders

Shalom from Jerusalem

"The Bible is the great family chronicle of the Jews" (Heinrich Heine)

Dear Friends of Israel,

"Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying, Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us." He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The Lord will hold them in derision. Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure: 'Yet, I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion.' 'I will declare the decree: The Lord has said to Me, You are My Son, today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for Your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.' Now therefore be wise, O Kings; be instructed, you judges of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, rejoice with trembling, Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him" (Psalm 2).

This very well-known Scripture continues to resonate in the minds of Christians living in Israel today. The Middle East is like one giant cauldron that is on a constant low boil ready to explode at any instant of time. The desire for more freedoms among the Arab populations of nations surrounding Israel, has exacerbated the discontent. However, most of these populations have lived under dictatorships for so long they are at a loss as to how to express their longings for freedom.

The "Arab spring" was the initial expression of these frustrations which resulted in massive and volatile public demonstrations beginning in Tunisia, spreading to Egypt, on to Libya, into Syria, and now Turkey is experiencing, as of this writing, almost two weeks of rioting to express their discontent with the leadership of Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey. President Bashar Assad of Syria originally boasted the troubles would not come to his country because of the satisfaction of the Syrian people with his regime. Now, almost two

Dictators rehab center
My name is Tayyip Erdogan, and I am a dictator.



cartoon by Jerusalem Post

“Israel’s leadership must remain vigilant...please keep these leaders in your daily prayers for much wisdom and discernment regarding Israel’s enemies’ plans to bring death and destruction to the Jewish people.”



Photo: wikimedia.org

Above: Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, needs our fervent prayers

Below: Israel in training preparations for chemical warfare attack



Photo: wikimedia.org

and one-half years later and close to 100,000 deaths, Assad tenuously hangs on to power. King Hussein of Jordan has miraculously held on to power as king, in spite of various threats from his Palestinian dominated population.

The Bait and Switch Tactic

Waiting in the background in each of these troubled countries is the Muslim Brotherhood who gains strength from all of the demonstrations of discontent. The overthrow of Hosni Mubarak in Egypt left an open door for the MB to appoint Egypt’s new government leaders who are mostly from the MB. They did their best to hoodwink the citizens into believing that democracy had finally come to Egypt. The “bait and switch” tactic failed and the population soon took to the streets in violent protests and demonstrations overthrowing Mohamed Morsi’s government, placing him under house arrest. At the present time it is a bit of a standoff as each side is debating their next move taking control of the government.

While all of these demonstrations are happening, Iran is steadily progressing with her nuclear ambitions of obtaining a supply of weapons. Syria is receiving the most attention from the international community, but a decisive answer is not manifesting and each day results in the loss of innocent civilian lives. The civil war in Syria is spilling over into Lebanon with the explosive potential of dragging the entire Middle East into a major regional conflict. Russia’s President Putin is Syria’s “Patron Saint” as he sits on the sidelines watching events unfold, keeping a wary eye on all the regional players. At some point in the not too distant future the growing threat from Iran will need to be addressed by either Israel or the United States, or both. When that event happens it will be as if someone threw a match into an open can of gasoline! The longer the West delays responding to this global threat, the greater will be the cost in human lives.

Of course, the common goal in all of this posturing is the ultimate destruction of the State of Israel. For this reason, Israel’s leadership must remain vigilant as she observes the historical nations surrounding her slowly disintegrating. As this is happening, Israel is placed in a very tenuous position, not really knowing who are her friends and who are her enemies. This leaves both Israel’s government and military in a very precarious position—not really knowing who may strike first. It is for this reason we ask you to please keep these leaders in your daily prayers for much wisdom and discernment regarding what Israel’s enemies may be planning to bring death and destruction to the Jewish people.

Middle East in Transition

I personally believe the Middle East is in a period of transition from government-based dictatorships to Islam-based dictatorships, where religion will control every aspect of their personal lives. This is the very opposite of what the “Arab Spring” was to achieve for the Arab world. We are witnessing a paradigm shift in the Moslem world where Islam will be the uniting catalyst by which the followers of Mohammed will seek to rule the world, starting with the defeat of Israel. This will result in some major confrontations with Israel’s neighbors in the not too distant future. Some relevant scriptures come to mind: Psalm 83, Isaiah 17:1, Jeremiah 31, Zechariah 12 and 13 and many other relevant prophetic scriptures. Israel is preparing for the potential of an all-out war involving chemical, biological, conventional and nuclear weapons. The prospect of such a war is mind-boggling. **However, we take solace in knowing the Lord’s promises to Israel and the Jewish people: “Behold, He who keeps Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep” (Psalm 121:4).**

Sincerely in the Lord’s service,

Ray Sanders

Ray Sanders, Executive/International Director

King of the Universe

“I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob” (Exodus 3:6).

“The highest science, the loftiest speculation...which can ever engage the attention of a child of God, is the name, the nature, the person, the work, the doings, and the existence of the Great God whom he calls his Father” – Charles Spurgeon, 1855-1892.

Charles Spurgeon, a nineteenth-century English preacher is known to be to England what D. L. Moody was to America. His words summarize what our search to know God should be: *the highest goal in life*. However, to attempt to speculate or describe the enormity of the Supreme Being of the Universe, in words, is nearly impossible, because He is beyond measure. Extolling His Name on the cover of this edition of *For Zion's Sake* is one way to honor His Majesty. It seems to me that God Almighty is never extolled nor given tribute enough from believers, be they Jews or Christians. May this viewpoint from the heart bring Him Glory—and then fade into the unending tribute which will be ALL HIS in His Coming Kingdom!

We know the name *God* is used in the world today mostly as an expression of anger and frustration, in a negative connotation, which is irreverence to the Holiness of God. The world is blind to the One who is allowing them to have the very *“breath of life”* (Genesis 2:7, Job 33:4) on the earth for the time of their existence here. We must work to get the good news of His salvation message out to everyone who attacks the dignity of GOD!

One of God's Hebrew Names, *“Immanuel”* (Matthew 1:23) means “God with us.” In Temple times the view from a “Royal Bridge” must have been splendid. It was over it that the Romans led the Savior whom God sent to earth, in sight of all Jerusalem. There was a porch in the outermost court of the Temple—which was called the Court of the Gentiles—and it must have been awesome to see *“God with us”* in full view of their eyes. We too, will stand in awe, when we see Him as He is! God's Hebrew name (YHVH) is mentioned some 6,828 times in the pages of the Hebrew Scriptures and Hebrew manuscripts (such as the Aleppo Codex, the Leningrad Codex and the Cairo Codex of the Prophets.) (*Jehovah*,

or *Yehovah*, is the result of taking the vowels of *Adonai* and combining them with YHVH, the four consonants of the Lord's name.) When we hear His name we think of authority, power and the Sovereign Governor of this world. He is the only One with ability, strength and power to overcome the evil one.

THE SUPREME BEING

The words *“Ehyeh asher Ehyeh”* is a name for God that was used when God took the Hebrew children from slavery to freedom...I will be (*Ehyeh*) with thee (Genesis 26:3). Future tense, *I shall be with you*. Therefore, some translate *“Ehyeh asher Ehyeh”* as *“I will be what I will be.”* I have never understood how humans could “shake the fist” at God when deep inside somewhere they know that He created them. Their arrogant hostility toward Him, when He is the Great I Am, is beyond my grasp.

The Lord Yeshua came to glorify the Father God on earth. Manifesting His Father's Name meant teaching and modeling the Father's nature in such a way that eventually the disciples clearly understood what the Father was like. Yeshua was perfectly obedient to His Father's Will. Yes, God, as The Magnificent Supreme Being, is the ultimate goal for all of us and Yeshua as our High Priest (*Cohen Hagadol*) is the Way to Him. Living in Israel has taught me, as a Christian, a reverence and respect for Almighty God that I was never *entirely* taught in my Church.

Sadly, God's Name is being challenged at the highest of levels in the world today. US government agencies are now saying that the Quran is the Word of God” (FBI Expert: Quran is ‘Revealed Word of God’, Bob Unruh, WND News, June 4, 2013). Also, the wonderful work of the Gideons is being challenged, with implications that point to Bibles no longer being allowed in many hotel

The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob

By Sharon Sanders



Abraham worshipping the One True God

rooms. Multitudes of Protestant churches are divesting from the Land of Israel when the Bible clearly states: “*He has shown His Great Power to His People by giving them the Land of Israel...*” (Psalm 111:6, LB). Added to the latest scandals in Christianity is the Church of Scotland which has recently “shredded” God’s Word, canonizing Palestinian “Scripture” (*The Jewish Press.com* Malcolm Lowe, June 4, 2013).

It does not take a theological expert to reach the conclusion that God, **His Holy Word**—which He spoke to mankind—**and His Name** are being challenged in this generation! People are perishing because of a lack of knowledge. Who is thirsty? Come and receive living water which money cannot purchase. Do not be caught by deception in these end times. God will bend His ear to listen to those who call on Him in spirit and in truth.

HOLY AWE

We must stand in fervent prayer against the onslaught of a global demonic exhibition of power to invalidate that which is of God. He is the **ONLY** Supreme Being to be worshipped today, the future and forever. “The Hebrew phrase for “fear of God” is *yirat elohim*, and in the rabbinical teachings it is *yirat shamayim* or *fear of Heaven*. This does not necessarily refer to being afraid, but rather suggests a state of holy awe, reverence and respect which demonstrates our highest level of love for Him; and while we are in awe of a holy God, we are also in awe of His Word” (Ludwig Schneider, *Israel Today*, May 2013).

Many people believe in a god of some kind, but their understanding of the One True God is unclear. “There is a generally accepted notion of a cosmic power, some benev-

olent energy force which permeates all creation, a morally ambiguous higher power of fate or destiny..." (*First Fruits of Zion*). God identified Himself with the Jewish people as the God of the Jewish fathers of the faith, totally unconnected to the would-be gods of this world. What god do Christians serve? Our answer must be: "The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." Not to answer this question, in this way, would show plain ignorance on our part.

God, who spoke into existence a universe so vast, that the Hubble telescope has not found the end of it—created you and me. This wonderful Majestic Ruler of the universe is so loving and merciful that He cared enough to send Yeshua as the sacrificial Lamb for all. When we think of how small our planet is—an almost imperceptible tiny blue dot on a vast sea of empty space, the immenseness of that reasoning power almost doesn't compute. Our Creator is just so big!

Our earth floats in space...God "*hangs the earth on nothing*" (Job 26:7). The earth is unsupported by any other object floating in the cosmic void, hanging on nothing...something quite unnatural for the ancient writers to imagine. He made the earth round (Isaiah 40:22). When viewed from space, the earth always appears as a circle. Job 26:10 also indicates the spherical nature of the planet. This means God has inscribed a circle on the surface of the waters at the boundary of light and darkness...this boundary between light and darkness (day and night) is called the *terminator* (a scientific term) since the light stops or "terminates" there. Someone standing on the terminator would be experiencing either a sunrise or a sunset; they are going from day to night or from night to day. God is the one who stretches out the heavens like a curtain and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in. (Isaiah 40:22).

Neither matter nor energy will cease to exist, because God is sustaining them. We can conclude that the amount of material in the universe is constant. The Bible often uses "stars of heaven" to represent an extremely large quantity of stellar matter. Genesis 22:17 teaches that God would multiply Abraham's descendants "*as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is on the sea shore*" (Genesis 32:12). It is estimated that our galaxy alone contains over 100 billion stars and God knows them all by name (Psalm 147:4). Since God has set ordinances for heaven and earth (Jeremiah 33:25-26), as long as they stand, the nation of Israel will never stop from being a nation before Him.

God structured the physical earth, as it now exists, from the face of the earth up: the lower sea of physical waters (our seas and oceans), the first heaven (the atmosphere), the second heaven (outer space), the sea above outer space and below the third heaven (a sea of separation). Above it all, is the Third heaven. This higher Sea (actually a *sea of glass, like crystal*, Revelation 4:6) is before and below the Throne of God. It represents a firm and impassable barrier between the world of man below and

the abode of God above (Psalm 148:4). John saw a "sea" in Revelation 4:6. This present "Sea" of separation will no longer exist when God makes all things new after the Messiah's 1000-year reign. (Revelation 21:1).

BLESSING GOD

CFI is working to teach the nations a genuine understanding of His plans and purposes with regard to Israel. Wherever end time revival happens, it is our prayer that with it will come a repentance toward God and a turning toward blessing Israel, for when we bless Israel, we bless the God of Israel. He is the Living God, steadfast and forever. His Kingdom will never be destroyed (Daniel 2:44; Psalm 99:1). His is an everlasting dominion (Daniel 4:34, Revelation 4:10; Luke 1:33). He is from generation to generation (Daniel 4:3; 7:27; Luke 1:33). He is able to deliver from lions' dens, fiery furnaces, immense floods, invading armies, and He is able to create signs in the heavens. His ways are great. He will never pass away, (Daniel 7:14) and will never slumber nor sleep (Psalm 121:4). He is a covenant keeper to His Spoken Word. His is the Coming Kingdom (Daniel 7:14; Matthew 28:18; John 3:35, 36; 1 Corinthians 15:27; Ephesians 1:22; Philippians 2:9-11; Revelation 1:6; 11:15). It is Israel (and grafted in gentiles) who will inherit the Commonwealth (Ephesians 2:12-18) and Kingdom to which all nations will come up to Jerusalem to worship the Lord God of Israel. (Daniel 7:2-3, 18).

He is on a "throne of grace," and is higher than the heavens, (Hebrews 7:26). To Him we will give an account (Luke 22:28; 2 Corinthians 5:21). When we stand before Him, we will want His mercy and grace. We must therefore show mercy (to the Jewish people) who first showed us the mercy of God by obeying the Lord's commands to "*go ye into all the world*" (Mark 16:15). God also showed gentiles His Mercy by showing us the way to Him. Almighty God runs His universe, He is unchangeable. He is immutable... "*that your faith and hope might be in God*" (Acts 2:24, 33); 1 Peter 1:21; 3:18). The ages and the cosmos are all framed by the Word of God which is forever settled for all eternity in Heaven (Psalm 119:89).

The Bible reveals the condition of the world before the Coming of the Lord (Matthew 24:3-8). We must long for His Return and be found waiting for Him in the courtyard of the arriving King. In the Spirit we must be ready to welcome Him properly, as He deserves the applause of Earth and Heaven (Psalm 84:1-2, LB.) Yes, the Lord of Heaven's armies will arrive in His Timing. We must continue to be strong in Him. We must continue to go before the Lord to prepare the way for the Jewish people, to walk on the highway of His Holiness and to make a place for His Steps. We must nourish ourselves on His Word and pore over it daily as it contains a vast world of knowledge about His being. Our minds must be stimulated each new morning to think about Him.

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה אֶחָד

Sh'ma Yis'ra'el Adonai Eloheinu
Adonai Echad.

Hear, O Israel, the Lord is our God,
the Lord is One.

The words of Yeshua from Deuteronomy 6:4-9 which He quoted (Mark 12:29).

He is not just a theory or theoretical. He is **One God, and Only One, who humbly took a towel in His Hand** and washed His disciples' feet. One day He will wipe away all tears from **our** eyes – *think about this!* The Supreme Being will wipe away *our* tears? What manner of love this is!

SAVED BY THE BLOOD

I sometimes reflect on Jerusalem from our balcony, which faces the Temple Mount. In my mind's eye I can picture the rebuilt Temple, with more glory than the former one, and the Coming of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords which will make it a *"praise in the earth"* (Isaiah 62:7). One day all nations who believe in the King of the Universe, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and His Son, Yeshua, will be allowed to come and worship the One True God. There will be no Buddhas, Hare Krishnas, Hindus, Moslems, or even any "religious" people from Christian denominations in today's Church, but *only those saved by the blood of the Lamb of God: Yeshua*. They will be allowed into the Temple of God Almighty.

If you find life unfulfilling only in the ownership of possessions or personal ambitions, it may be time to connect with the heart of God and love Him with everything you have in you. Entering into His Presence with a humble heart is where I find my true self. He IS the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace, the King of the Universe and clearly identifies Himself with a unique people on the planet: the nation of **Israel**.

We close this teaching with a form of worship that the Jewish people practice by blessing God. *"Baruch atah Adonai eloheinu melekh ha-olam, asher natan lesikhvei v'ina l'ha'ochin bein*

yom u'vein lailah." Blessed art Thou, Lord our God, King of the universe, who gave the heart understanding to distinguish between day and night." As long as day and night exists so will the nation of Israel because the God of the Universe, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob has the final word!

"...and there is none other God but One" (1 Corinthians 8:4, 6). This Supreme Divine Being is not only special to Israel but He is the sole Lord of the entire world. Israel's eschatology lay in the belief in its election by God as the means by which He would establish His universal reign over all mankind, combined with His ironclad promise to Israel of her own land. As Christians, we approach the Everlasting Father through the High Priest chosen by God: Yeshua (Jesus). Yes, this incredible God of the Universe calls Himself – "The God of Israel." Regardless of men's ambitions and ideologies which may wish to dominate the world, the God of Israel says: *"Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure"* (Isaiah 46:10). Truly, He is a breathtaking, magnificent and very great God ruling the Universe.

Without a doubt, Charles Spurgeon expressed wisdom when he said that the highest activity the child of the Living God can ever be involved in, in this life, is to learn the name, the nature, the person, the work, the doings and the existence of the Great God who will always retain His Permanent Position. Islam has 99 names for God, but among them they do not have "Our Father." As believers we need to ponder about how marvelous it is that we get to call Him this wonderful name!

Fulfilling The LORD'S Calling

Of the nine Outreach Projects that CFI administers, my favourite continues to be First Fruits. The purpose of this Project is to administer financial assistance to the Household of Faith in Israel. These are our brothers and sisters who have often sacrificed homes, families, friends and careers to make *aliyah* (home coming to Israel) and thereby are fulfilling the Lord's calling of the Jewish people to their homeland. Whereas these newcomers are taking this bold step of faith, the challenges they experience are often daunting.

Firstly, they need to find a place to live in a nation whose housing costs are higher than most countries in the world. Secondly, they must learn the language in order to secure a job. This can take six to twelve months of intensive study to become proficient. If they have children, they will need to enroll them in the public school system where they must also learn the language. This process can be quite challenging as well as discouraging. Just learning the Hebrew language requires a real commitment due to the spiritual warfare that is encountered. Everything they experience outside their home is like landing on a planet from outer space. It is at this point of their orientation that they will either succeed or return home.

Adjusting to a New Life

During this entire period of adjustment they are given a small stipend from the Israeli government to live on plus their savings account—if they have one. Looking for employment can be difficult in a country the size of Israel. Often the new immigrant is coming from a country much larger than Israel, and therefore, with greater job possibilities. At this point the excitement of living in Israel has worn off and the daily grind kicks in. If they fail to locate a job reasonably soon, they will begin to dream about how easy their life was in their original homeland. The temptation to “call it quits” is enormous as they face the real life in the Promised Land. Unfortunately, wages are low but basic living costs are very high. It is at this point in their “*aliyah* experience” they will turn to other sources for financial assistance. Unfortunately, most new immigrants wait too long before turning to financial counselling services. By this time they are hopelessly in debt with little if any possibility to pay off their loans to the bank.

Thank You Letters

You're Doing a Wonderful Job

“Shalom, dear brothers and sisters from CFI! I want to thank you for your help. I have started teeth treatment. My wife is also very happy, that her husband will have beautiful teeth! Thank you very much! May our Lord Jesus bless you! You're doing a wonderful job, bringing joy to people.” RR, Beer Sheva

Thank you for your Faithfulness

“Dear Ray and friends of Israel. Thank you very much for your donation to **Chaim Beshefa Ministry** towards baby furniture. Your donation is a great help in the effort of saving lives and the constant fight against the murder of babies. We bless you for the encouragement that you are for us in this fight. Thank you for all your faithfulness.”

Anat & Ishai, Kfar Sava

I am Grateful to the Lord

“Dear Christian Friends of Israel. I am eternally grateful to you for such a lovely gift from you. Before no one gave me such a gift to me. When I received your letter, I was crying half the day. I was praying and thanking the Lord and you and I am still very thankful.” AJ

I Wasn't Expecting Much

“Here we are taught by state agencies not to expect much financial support. A lot of social advocates but no real help. So I wasn't expecting much from you. And when I received your encouraging letter I was utterly happy. You helped me very much.”

LZ, Haifa

God is Alive and Real

“I thank our heavenly Father for His love and care, for His giving Hand which blesses through you. God is alive and real, who blesses His children. Be blessed my dear for your care and good heart and for your love you are sharing and pouring out on us. You can tell my story to everyone. In Jesus Name. Amen! Thank you! Thank you!” NA

By Ray Sanders, First Fruits Coordinator

www.cfijerusalem.org

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF ISRAEL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Photo by Sherman A. Burton



Shabbat



Pesach (Passover)



Shavuot (Pentecost)



Succot (Tabernacles)

Learning About **THE FEASTS OF ISRAEL**

MAY 26–27, 2014

“A TASTE OF GOD’S APPOINTED TIMES”

**Meet The People Of Israel Tour
and Prayer Journey
May 28 – June 5, 2014**

Keshet Tour Highlights: Tour Biblical Heartland of Israel, meet the pioneers of the Land, visit a kibbutz, Israeli army base, meet Israeli soldiers, boat ride on Sea of Galilee, Baniyas of Roman times, Mt. Bental, Bethsaida, visit Carmel Assembly on Mt. Carmel, visit an absorption center, Garden Tomb, Old City Tour, Dead Sea, Kasser El Yahud baptism site, meet former member of PLO now a Christian, visit an Arab Christian congregation, visit Center for Jewish-Christian Understanding, Fountain of Tears, Anne Frank Exhibition, Yad VaShem and welcome the Shabbat with survivors of terror or survivors of Holocaust. Proclaim Isaiah 62 as Watchmen on the Walls. Bring your Bibles to pray over Israel’s borders.

Your hosts: Ray and Sharon Sanders.

**Arrival, Registration and
Opening Night Sunday 25 May, 2014**

Package Tour Includes:

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- Conference Package Cost: \$1,595 (US)
Hotel accommodations, half-board (Israeli breakfast and dinner), Post Conference Tour plus Conference
- Conference Only Cost: \$100 (US)

**For further Information please email:
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Tel: 972-52-720-2244
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"Blessed be God...the Father of all mercies, and the God of all comfort. Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we are able to comfort... wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God" (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)

Streams of Blessing

Helping the Poor and the Needy

As Christians, "we demonstrate our love for Him by what we do, not just by what we say. May our devotion to God, because of his Love for us, be revealed in our actions..." (Marvin Williams).



Experiencing widowhood



Ministering to handicapped children



Widow's Tea Party at Pizgat Ze'ev



Elderly War veteran struggling with cancer

PROPHECY IS BEING FULFILLED before our eyes every day. The vegetation, people and spiritual awakening alert us to the Biblical prophecies being fulfilled. The Lord is gathering his scattered sheep from the nations (Ezekiel 34:12; see also Isaiah 11:12; 40:11). Streams of Blessing is being used to feed and water His precious ones as they are continuing to return to the Land. While the needs are bigger than one can imagine, **we rejoice in the opportunity to be a part of the restoration.**

Everyone Needs Attention

Ilona and Dana, recent immigrants, lost their mother to cancer. After her passing, the girls' Russian grandmother came to help, but because she is not Jewish, cannot remain with them for long. Since their mother left no assets behind, they struggle to make it on Ilona's part-time income. They turned to CFI for help and comfort. So many have been wounded and need careful attention. Our promise to them is to keep in touch and help with the financial struggle as the Lord provides. A Colorado volunteer team went with us to visit Saint Vincent, Home for Children with Special Needs. As we looked beyond their imperfections and deformities—and ours—we saw hearts loving the attention and affection we gave them from a perfect loving Father.

The Widow's Tea Party

And then, there was the Widow's Tea Party: we sang, served and encouraged. The elderly Russian widows had never had a door prize or hand massage before. At the closing, I told them that the greatest thing we can do with our hands is praise HaShem (His Name). Without having my words translated, their wrinkled soft hands immediately went up in the air as they chanted with one voice, "Baruch HaShem, Baruch HaShem." *"He that has pity upon the poor lends to the Lord..."* (Proverbs 19:17).

The Power of Demonstration

A volunteer team from Colorado also helped Streams honor 50 blockade and evacuee survivors—most from the Leningrad Blockade that resulted in over 1 million deaths—with a wonderful party and love gifts of appreciation. Their gratitude was expressed over and over in so many ways of appreciation. Now, they know that Christians from around the world love them and that they will not forget what they endured; nor do they forget that it is God who has brought His precious ones home. It is our delight and honor to help take care of them. Yes, the power of demonstration has to be through love, mercy and kindness. **One cannot preach it. One cannot describe it. It just comes from the heart.**

By Tommie Coleman, Streams of Blessing Coordinator

www.cfijerusalem.org



Maria loved her quilt



Bill & Becky with Salia

“Your Visits Are Showing Us You Care”

THANK YOU to all who have given to Holocaust Survivors recently. It is our pleasure to deliver your gifts and tell the survivors that they have come from individuals who pray for them and want to bless them with a gift of love. Their response is heartfelt and often with tears of gratitude they echo the words of these two survivors: “Your visits are showing us you care and the fact that you do not forget me as a survivor of Nazi horrors.” And the other survivor said, “We wish you good health, happiness and every success in the noble cause you are doing.”

Apart from monetary gifts we have also blessed survivors with hand-made socks and crocheted vests from Finland, warm wraps from England and America, and beautiful patchwork quilts from America. As you can see from the letter below, the survivors tell their families about the love they receive, and so your love ripples out to the next generations.



Jody and Rita present a quilt together

Dear Forsake Them Not Team... “As I was reading the CFI web page I found out that your organization has been helping the people of Israel for almost 28 years and promoting among Christians throughout the world the need to support our Nation on an international level. It was a great pleasure for me to meet with your team, even though we were remembering very sad moments from the past. I have been looking at the photos of our meeting many times. You all look so wonderful that it is a pleasure to look at them again and again.

“Yesterday I went to Kiryat Motzkin to visit my children. I was walking in the park with my granddaughter, who is eight years old and telling her about our meeting. I told her that there are people from all the corners of the world, who are thinking of the people of Israel and trying to help us in any possible way. I told her also, that there are poor fishermen from Sri-Lanka who gave us a generous gift and who are praying for us. I mentioned also the unknown woman from Finland who knitted socks and sent them over to Israel so that I could be warm and comfortable. As a response to all that my granddaughter said, “Let those who do good to people be rewarded for their kindness. It’s a pity that the people in our neighboring nations don’t love us and we can’t be their friends.”

“I often struggle at night with sleeplessness. I woke up in the middle of the night recently and was thinking about the woman who was knitting socks with all her “soul” to bring joy to unknown people. I don’t need extra socks, but this gift is very precious to me and I will always remember the person it came from. I also remembered unknown people, who during the war in 1941-1945 had knitted socks and gloves and sent them over to the front line so the soldiers could feel loved, supported and be warm. I wish you all good health, a lot of joy in the noble cause **you are doing and the Lord’s blessings!**”

Sincerely yours, Roman – Kiryat Ata

By **Jenny Milmine**, Forsake Them Not Coordinator

We must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” Acts 20:35.

Rocket Hits Three Times

FOR HAMAS NOW, as for Yasser Arafat before, any cease-fire agreement with Israel is at best a temporary truce and a reduction of hostilities against an enemy. It is a move meant to buy time until it is tactically advantageous to resume attacks. The model for Hamas and other Islamist terror groups is the same one as their Prophet Mohammed's "peace treaty" with the Quraysh tribe known as the Treaty of Hudaibiyyah signed in 628 CE. The peace was supposed to last for ten years, but lasted for less than two. As soon as Mohammed became stronger, he violated the treaty. So even though a cease-fire agreement with Israel was signed last November, Hamas continues to fire rockets into Israel (An Israeli frustrated definition for cease-fire with Hamas is: **We Cease, they Fire!**).

It was shocking for the CUA team to hear that Kolet's home was hit **three times** by rockets fired from Gaza! **The first hit** was in May 2007. Thank God for His hand of protection that Kolet was not killed, because it was just **one minute** after she finished taking a shower and came out of the bathroom that the rocket landed in their bathroom! Kolet was badly injured on her back and right shoulder by the blast, and still needs more surgery today. Her youngest son, five years old was also injured. The doctors removed many pieces of shrapnel, but some still remain in his body.

Sorrow and Grief

The second and third hits happened in August and November 2011, only three months apart. For an entire year, they couldn't live in their house. On the other hand, the whole family is so severely traumatized by these three hits that all of them still need ongoing psychological treatment. But aside from a small amount of money to repair the house, they receive no compensation from the government for injuries and trauma.

Kolet and her husband Yosef have four children. Their oldest son is 31 years old and has some psychological problems, so he is unable to work. Their second child is a daughter who is 29 years old. She was married and had a baby boy who died when he was seven months old. They suspected the death was caused by the trauma of the ongoing rocket attacks. Their son-in-law couldn't bear the situation, and he wanted to move from there, but his wife didn't want to leave Sderot because their baby was buried there. Sadly the marriage ended in divorce, and Kolet's daughter moved back to live with them. Then Kolet's second son, 22 years old, also couldn't cope with the ongoing rocket attacks so he left Sderot. Kolet's hus-

band, Yosef, used to work in a gift shop, but now he is unable to work because of health problems. He is diabetic, one of his lungs had to be removed, and he is waiting for a transplant. He also has serious asthma, so he needs to use medical equipment six or seven times a day to help him breathe. The trauma caused by the ongoing rocket attacks, plus health and difficult financial hardship (debts) are so unbearable that Yosef said he wished he could die. Please keep him in prayer that **hope** will be restored.

It is only to a small degree that we, people from outside, are able to understand the misery and plight of Kolet and Yosef as well as the other civilians living there. The ongoing rocket attacks not only have caused death, physical injuries and house damage, increased miscarriages, trauma, emotional and psychological problems to people in the South of Israel, but also have forced a number of businesses to close or move out from the affected areas, directly affecting the livelihood of the local civilians.

"Things will get better," sighed Kolet. However, her eyes do not look hopeful.

"Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double" (Zechariah 9:12). If the Lord touches your heart to help lighten the heavy weight which is on Kolet and Yosef's shoulders, please designate your financial gift to "Project Communities Under Attack for Kolet Timsit." Thank You.



Kolet and Yosef

By **Maggie Huang**, Communities Under Attack Coordinator

REALIZING THEIR DREAMS

The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good.
Proverbs 15:3 (NKJV)

AS A MINISTRY that has worked alongside the physical guardians of Israel—Christian Friends of Israel has the privilege of learning about amazing and heartfelt ways the Israel Defense Force serves the people of Israel.

The following excerpt from www.idfblog.com is an example of the desire of the IDF to help all who are willing to realize their dreams.



Ariel Almog

Ariel Almog served for 28 years in the IDF Artillery Corps. In 2001, he was severely wounded. While he was in hospital, he met soldiers and many patients who had suffered from severe psychological trauma. That's when he knew that he wanted to do something to help people who did not fit into a regular IDF framework find a way to contribute.

A few years later, the "Magshimim Halom—Mitgaysim leTsahal" ("Realizing Our Dreams—Engaging with the IDF") project was born. Ariel, then a commander in the Home Front Command, decided to give young people with special needs the opportunity to serve on his base. "We dismantle gas masks and sort all the different parts of the mask, which we then send for repairs," says Daniella, a soldier who works in the warehouse. "All the soldiers do the same job, whether they have special needs or not." Military service is an integral part of Israeli life. Ariel could not accept that an important group of Israeli youth was not able to share this experience. "Soldiers with special needs voluntarily commit to serve their country for three years, just like their peers," he says. "Magshimim Halom soldiers who have finished their service now work for private companies," says Aviva, one of the instructors. "Working here allows them to progress and gives them confidence." Thousands of Israelis are now benefiting from their hard work.

CFI Provided Tents

As noted, the need to participate within the Israeli lifestyle and perform military service also cannot be more highlighted than during a recent visit with the very special Druze unit. I learned that young Druze soldiers started fighting alongside Jews in 1947, when Druze community elders agreed to allow them to serve in the pre-state Hagannah militia. When the war over Israel's independence began, the Druze joined a new minorities unit, made up of Bedouin, Circassian, and Druze. Many more Druze began volunteering during the 1948/9 war. The bond between Israeli Jews and Druze, forged on the battlefield, grew closer over the decades. The Druze battalion came of age in Operation Litani in 1978. During the successful Israeli drive to push the PLO out of southern Lebanon, the battalion operated independently and with distinction.

CFI recently provided four-person military style tents which will allow this special unit the ability to perform military exercises throughout the hot summer months and with the purpose of meeting the ever changing readiness demands of the IDF. Our conversation turned to my explaining that there are people around the world praying for the IDF soldiers and also this particular unit. I reminded the commander that we are Christian Friends of Israel and he immediately said, "We are Druze friends of Israel!" As you consider the guardians of Israel, please realize that the soldiers need to know how much they are appreciated for being willing to place their lives in harm's way. CFI and Project David's Shield **thank you** for your loving support.

Please pray that the God of Israel—Adonai Tzva'ot, the God of heaven's armies—will be revealed to those who keep alert and stand guard over the Land—Israel. Pray for the physical guardians of Israel as they keep watch over this Land of Promise.

By **Jim McKenzie**, Project David's Shield Coordinator



Jim McKenzie meeting with soldiers



Sitting At The Table With Those Jeremiah Saw

“Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the coasts of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travails with child together: a great company shall return there” (Jeremiah 31:8). “Hear the word of the Lord, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd does his flock” (Jeremiah 31:10).

At times in my life, I have found life to be incredible and nearly unreal. To say that an ordinary person like myself, would be able to state that I, with all certainty and reality, have been granted the privilege and honor to sit at the side of real people (with real stories), and be a part of a nation fulfilling Jeremiah’s vision and prophetic word, is almost like a dream. Reflecting upon this amazing fact that I have sat at the table with those he saw down through the corridors of time, returning home to Israel, is an amazing testimony.

The Offspring and Descendants

These people we love so much and enjoy blessing, are in fact, the offspring and descendants of the scattered Jewish people who were dispersed to the far corners of the earth in the Lord’s anger (Jeremiah 9:16). Jacob’s return was prophesied in Jeremiah 30:10 and in many other places in the Bible and CFI outreach team members, in all of our projects, have the distinct honor of binding up wounds from the past hurts of Christian anti-Semitism. CFI works to undo damage done in the Name of the Messiah carried out by the historical “Church” against the Jewish people for centuries. We have been able to reflect Him properly and to show the mercy and compassion that the God of Israel has shown to us gentiles.

It’s like a dream. These are distant relatives of the prophets, having been in the Diaspora of the nations for so long and carrying inside them the spirit of the Jewish people that God implanted in them supernaturally. When we asked some of the new immigrants we have helped, “Why did you come to Israel?” they could not really give a verbal answer. They only pointed up to Heaven! So many *could have* experienced God’s mercy and love from Christians during

the years they were in our nations, but the historical Church, supported by the true facts of history, were seldom the comforters of the Jewish people when they needed us. *“There is none to plead thy cause, that you may be bound up: you have no healing medicines”* (Jeremiah 30:13). During Jacob’s wanderings in our nations, where was the Lord’s love working in the Church toward the scattered Jewish people?

God’s Healing Balm

Christian Friends of Israel is working to change history. In order for the true Church to be free from the sins of Christian anti-Semitism, we need to be the healing balm that we were always supposed to be. God scattered, but promised to love them, with an everlasting love. With lovingkindness He would draw them back to their homeland (Jeremiah 31:3). This time, when the history books are written may they contain the testimonies of many of us who worked toward reconciliation, spreading the love of God Almighty through our lives, unconditionally. We must also testify to what we have seen and heard from many who have suffered so much. May we be eternally grateful that the Lord God of Israel has granted us the remarkable opportunities we have had and are still enjoying—that of hearing the true stories of what they, the Jewish people have endured often at the hands of their neighbors.

As true comforters, sitting at the table—often with a meal in front of us lovingly prepared by elderly hands of the very people Jeremiah perceived with the spiritual eyes of his heart, almost boggles the mind. Yes, they are a fulfillment of what he saw, as we are, by God’s Hand and destiny—responders to the work He called us to do. **Thank you for helping us, praying for us, and partnering in ministry with us.** As we work together for His Glory, we are regaining what was lost—a genuine love and acceptance by the Jewish people. As we apply the characteristics of Godly love and compassion that should have been shown through the centuries, God can now locate some of the comforters that He could not find centuries before. **Thank you for joining us, even though you cannot sit at their tables, we know you are with us in spirit. God bless you, our supporters!**

By Sharon Sanders, Director of Ministry/Teaching

SET APART AND APPOINTED— THE BASIS FOR ADVANCEMENT

“I knew you before I formed you in your mother’s womb. Before you were born, I set you apart and appointed you as my prophet to the nations.” “O Sovereign LORD,” I said, “I can’t speak for you! I’m too young!” The LORD replied, “Don’t say, ‘I’m too young,’ for you must go wherever I send you and say whatever I tell you. And, don’t be afraid of the people, for I will be with you and will protect you. I, the LORD, have spoken!” Then the LORD reached out and touched my mouth and said, “Look, I have put my words in your mouth!” Jeremiah 1: 5-9 (NLT).

THE LORD’S clear instruction to the young prophet Jeremiah is also relevant for each of us, today. Jeremiah was admonished not to consider his youth—or, in essence, any physical or “natural” circumstances—to determine whether or not he would be able to fulfill the assignment or calling the LORD had given to him. With that in mind, just for a moment, consider the achievements of Pnina Tamano-Shata, Yityish Aynaw and Teshome Solomon—Israelis, originally from Ethiopia, who have made many triumphant strides, to reach their current station or position in life.

In February 2013, **Pnina Tamano-Shata**, a member of the Yesh Atid party, became the first female from Ethiopia to be appointed to Israel’s parliament—and newly formed government. Pnina and her family immigrated to Israel when she was a toddler. At a very young age, she began to fight against the injustice her family experienced as new citizens of Israel. As a gifted student and young adult—among other accomplishments—after the military, Pnina completed her law degree, and became a news correspondent and co-anchor of a current affairs television program.

Yityish “Titi” Aynaw is the first Ethiopian woman to win the title of Miss Israel. Titi was born in Ethiopia. Her father died when she was a toddler. Her mother died several years later. She immigrated to Israel with her grandparents as an adolescent, completed high school and then served in the IDF, as an officer. A few months ago, at the age of 22, Titi won the title of Miss Israel 2013. She will also compete for the title of Miss Universe, later in the year.

Teshome Solomon, although not the first Ethiopian male to be appointed as an MK, Member of Knesset, he is a co-founder of the Yesh Atid party. He came to Israel with his family during a smaller operation, just prior to Operation Moses. Although Teshome experienced many challenges after immigrating to Israel, he was a high achiever with excellent grades in high school, became a paratrooper and officer in the army, and is now a major in the reserves. He studied social work and education at university completing a master’s degree. It is interesting

that in Amharic, the predominate language of Ethiopia, Teshome means, “he got promoted.”

At birth, one’s destiny and sphere of influence is set in motion and expands far beyond one’s immediate family structure, to one that is potentially worldwide. Each of us are created and commissioned to become a “voice” and a “witness” speaking out about and living life as the Lord has instructed in His Word. Our task is to obey the Lord’s instructions—and, “don’t be afraid of the people” - because He is with us and will protect us.

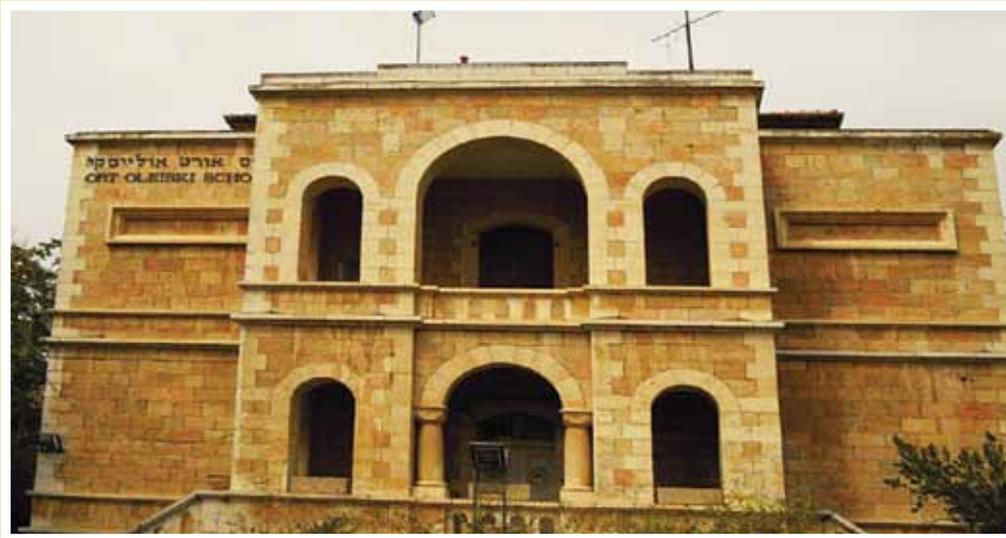
Unlike Pnina, Titi and Teshome, there are many success stories, here in Israel and elsewhere, from every walk of life or place in society, that will most likely not get local, much less national and/or international exposure. This is also true of the countless Hope for the Future success stories and victories that remain unidentified. In addition to being “set apart and appointed” by God for a certain calling, the pursuit of advanced levels of instruction is also a fundamental principle in achieving success or moving ahead in life. For that reason, HFF supports its client’s pursuit of higher levels of study and/or training by paying for school fees/tuition, after school programs and tutoring, as well as adult education/ training or re-training programs, etc. Among those who have benefited from your generosity through HFF’s effort in these areas, two individuals come to mind: a law school student who is now a lawyer, and a single mom who now works in the tour and travel industry, after several years of intense course work and training.

Thank you for your partnership with Hope for the Future. Your good works bring glory and honor to our Father in Heaven as a testimony of His goodness and a witness of His great love. **With sincere gratitude and thanksgiving to our Lord for you—I pray that you will prosper in every realm and dimension of your lives.**

By **Linda Edwards**, Hope for the Future Coordinator

www.cfijerusalem.org

A Once-In-A Lifetime Opportunity Allowing The Vision To Continue...



Proposed Ministry building located on a unique parcel of land in the heart of Jerusalem.

- Together we can **acquire and renovate** the main building.
- **Foreign Christian investors** are welcome.
- As a worldwide family **we can purchase** this Campus property together.
- **Participate together** in the use of the campus as a spiritual home-away
–from home in the heart of Jerusalem.

They Told Us They Would Never Sell: When CFI Jerusalem moved to its present location in 2004 we were assured the owners would never sell. In 2012, we were informed differently. A sale took place too quickly for us to raise the funds needed to purchase. Our Jerusalem Board then voted to establish a permanent home for CFI. Since “all things work together for the good” we bring before Christian friends of Israel supporters the vision for a great opportunity God has placed in our path.

CFI Growing: Our outreaches to the Jewish people have made a huge impact. Jewish-Christian relationships are at an all time high and are being strengthened. The followers of Jesus indeed are Israel’s best friends! The CFI work established in 1985 continues on its path of reconciliation as a pioneer ministry in Israel today preparing the way of the Lord.

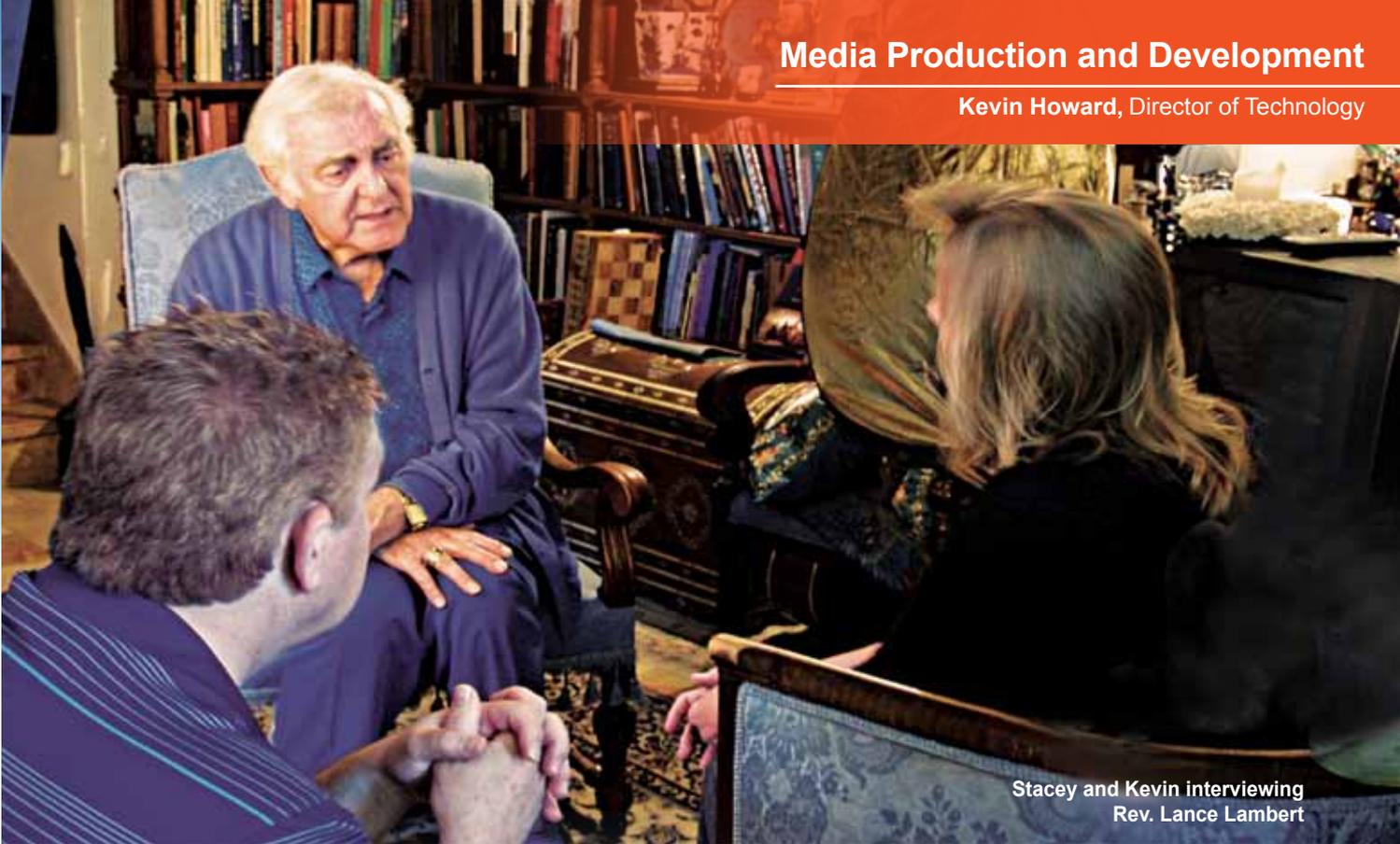
Thirty Years: CFI will celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2015. It is our desire to continue to advance God’s Kingdom on earth and to give Christians around the world a strong spiritual connection in the City of the Great King.

Proposed Ministry Building: The above building, a once-in-a-lifetime Jerusalem property opportunity, sits on a 9.73 dunam plot of ground (approximately 2 1/2 acres) with additional building rights. The interior requires renovation. CFI outreach projects and administration work would fit perfectly into this setting. **Please pray and ask God about your part in the acquisition of this unique property?** The ground which the building sits on includes four additional large buildings well landscaped and maintained. A conference and worship center, classrooms for Christian education in regard to Israel and our Hebrew roots, prayer watch ramparts, overseas team short-term service, a cafeteria, and short-term housing for tour groups is envisioned. A media and FocalPoint area is perfectly designed for “the Word to go forth” from an international Christian Education Center. *Will the flag of your nation fly for all Israel to see, on this property?* CFI seeks Christian Tour companies, market place investors and Christian business partners to help us put a stake in the ground to create a spiritual dwelling place for the Christian world among the Children of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the heart of Jerusalem.

Contact: campus@cfijerusalem.org

**“To declare the Name
of the Lord in Zion, and
His praise in Jerusalem”
(Psalm 102:21).**

**Please complete and
return the enclosed
Response Form to our
main office. Thank you
for your support for
the Ministry to Israel
and the Jewish People.**



Stacey and Kevin interviewing Rev. Lance Lambert

FocalPoint

—Where Israel IS the Point of Focus

We Are Reaching Around The Globe

FocalPoint has been given some miraculous opportunities to reach audiences around the globe with positive, relevant, and balanced information regarding the issues that face Israel and the Middle East region. **Christian Friends of Israel—Jerusalem's newest outreach** is hoping to repair many historical chasms that have been separating the Jewish and Christian communities for centuries. As a ministry, one of Christian Friends of Israel's mandates is to share with and educate the Church about Israel.

"There is a shocking silence in the Church today in regard to worldwide castigation of the Chosen People." (Peter Drucker) **FocalPoint's** main goals include combating such silence as well as countering the "untruths" so often heard in the media.

While **FocalPoint** is quickly being added to many television networks around the globe, it is also readily available across Digital Media outlets such as its own YouTube channel, Facebook, the CFI-Jerusalem website, and many others. To God's glory the show is airing around the world in English, Danish, Russian, and Ukrainian as well as translation into German, and soon, Spanish and French. CFI would like to thank you for partnering with them in this newest outreach to the Church through your prayers, feedback and financial gifts. It is our hope that you'll encourage your family and friends to watch as well.

By **Stacey Howard**, FocalPoint Host

"**FocalPoint** is combating the appalling level of misinformation regarding Israel found in our societies, which has arisen from biased news coverage we, in the nations, receive through the media." (**Rev. Frank Andrews**)

"If a picture is worth a thousand words, then a short film is worth a thousand pictures. Israel has been fighting for its life since its inception more than 64 years ago. But so much of the battle today is on the information front." (**Sondra Baras**)

WEBSITE:

www.cfijerusalem.org
click the FocalPoint Logo

YOUTUBE:

FocalPointTV2013

FACEBOOK:

Christian Friends of Israel—Jerusalem

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 info@focalpointtv.com



“...in the latter years you shall come into the Land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people...” (Ezekiel 38:8).

Sometimes we have a full house

God Calling For His People!

GOD'S ALIYAH WHISTLE: Isaiah 11:10-12 tells us that God is going to regather His Chosen People a second time. He adds that “...He will lift up an ensign to the nations from far, and will hiss unto them from the end of the earth and behold, they shall come with speed swiftly...” (Isaiah 5:26). In Hebrew the word for hiss is “sharaq” where God hisses or makes a whistle—a high pitched sound such as in a pipe and they come swiftly and quickly. Perhaps they have to run? Perhaps they do not know why they are coming home, but “feel something” or are hearing a distant sound that only their spirits can hear. We do not know. We can only speculate that God has His sound He will use, such as with an announcement, in the hearts of those who have been longing to return and they will come! It is our intention to be ready for them when they will need help for the first years of learning a new language, getting settled, finishing school, adjusting to a new culture and land and trying to eke out their small pensions on which to live. The D.C. Guest Book is full of notes of heartfelt gratitude from so many hearts that the voices almost “jump off the pages into our ears” and we KNOW we are obeying God by being the blessing they need at this time in their lives.

God is the Guiding Light

God actually does have an “*aliyah* whistle” and will continue to bring His People back to His Land. We must continue to arise and have mercy upon Zion (Psalm 102:13). Our desire is to expand the work of being the blessing the Church was always supposed to be (Genesis 12:3), to comfort them as they arrive (Isaiah 40:1); to be a light

in the darkness of their lives, to encourage them that they are in the right place (Isaiah 40:9), to provoke Israel to jealousy (Romans 11:11) and “*prepare the way of the Lord*” (Isaiah 40:3) by removing the stumbling stones the historical Church put in the path of the Jewish people. God will be the **Guiding Light** on their path as they are welcomed into the **gates of Zion** by entering through the doors of the CFI Distribution Center.

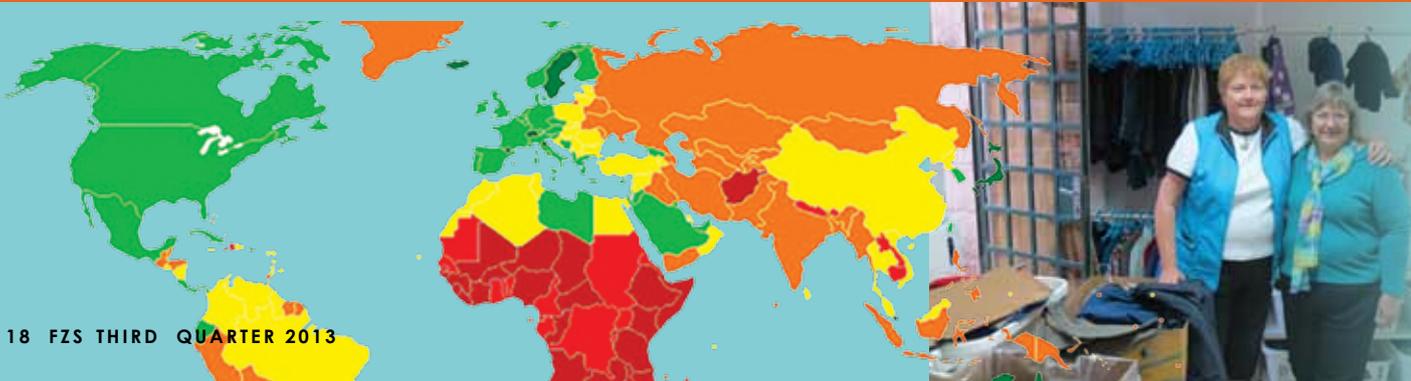
Neo-Nazism and xenophobia have once again surfaced in many European countries (such as Hungary, Greece, Belgium, Holland and the Scandinavian countries). We can expect Jewish people, who lead somewhat cloistered lives because of anti-Semitism, to see the writing on the wall and recognize that there is no future outside of the “ark of safety” – their own Land of Israel. Some 6.5 million Jewish people live in the USA and another 1.5 million in France, Canada, the UK and a handful of other countries. Israel is now the largest Jewish community in the world, for the first time in 2,000 years.

CFI was in the Land, on the ground, serving the thousands of Jewish people who came to Israel, from the former Soviet Union in the 1990's. Our goal now is to safeguard the work God has begun through the Distribution Center for all newcomers and Jewish people considering “coming home.” **With your continued help, your ongoing prayers and support and your involvement as partners-in-ministry with us, we will continue to be a bright light in the lives of the nation of Jesus: Israel.**

www.cfijerusalem.org

They come from many nations

Sandi and Jackie sorting clothing



From Around The World

FROM AROUND THE WORLD people find their way to the Lighthouse Distribution Center. During 2012 we welcomed over 4,413 people. They originally came from the following countries: 40% from Russia, 25.2% from Ukraine, 4.8% from Belarus, 4.3% from Israel, 3.8% Uzbekistan, 3.4% U.S.A., and smaller numbers from a variety of other countries. Most of our visitors are either new immigrants or pensioners who have made *aliyah* over the years. It is interesting to know why they have come to Israel.

Ephraim and his wife came from Florida for the sake of their children. They wanted them to be safe, have a better education, have peace of mind and a better way of living. They wanted to have less stressful jobs. Ephraim found their home country more expensive and more stressful. They were concerned about the safety of their children. Ephraim has enjoyed traveling around Israel admiring the variety of scenery. They feel more secure with more peace of mind and they are more relaxed. Their community has been more helpful and supportive. Ephraim and his family are still getting used to the different culture where life is more chaotic and less structured. Ephraim is involved as an electrician, but hopes to return to study to become an electrical engineer.

Ekaterina came from Moscow which she enjoyed. In Israel she enjoys the spirit of the country. It is a magical, carefree place full of fun, freedom and inspiration. Ekaterina enjoys the open and friendly nature of life in Israel. She finds the level of customer service a challenge in Israel. Ekaterina hopes to work in a forestry job.

Natalia and Larysa came from Ukraine in obedience to God's command to return to live in Israel. Natalia and Larysa experienced a hard life in the Ukraine with anti-Semitism in schools and universities. Natalia and Larysa have found life in Israel to be more stable, quiet and secure. They have appreciated the high level of medical care provided for them. They have enjoyed visiting the Holy places. Their friends back in Ukraine would also like to come. They envy them. Natalia and Larysa have enjoyed their new life.

Obviously learning the new language and working at low-paying jobs like cleaning has not been easy for them, as they are both well qualified in other jobs. Natalia is a nurse and Larysa is a veterinarian. But they will both have to do extra courses to help them become fully qualified for Israel. This will take some time. **Your support makes everything we do possible!**

By **Gordon Milmine**, Open Gates Coordinator

www.cfijerusalem.org

Visitors from Australia touring D.C



Receiving Shabbat covers



Sharing gifts of donated dried fruit



New immigrants from Haifa



Bridal Salon

"...thou shalt surely clothe thee with them...as a bride..." Isaiah 49:18.

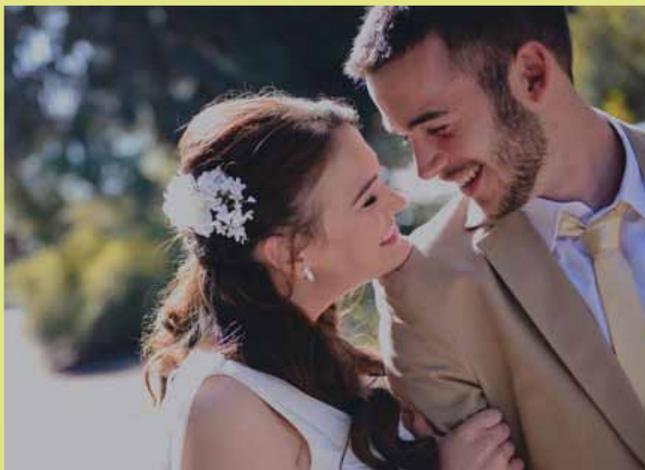
We recall the first wedding gown donated, to the last one recently received—thousands of top-of-the line wedding attire from boutiques in New York, to the most simple but classic dresses donated by Christian women from the nations. Jewish wedding days have been glorious and joyful. Many who just could not afford to rent or purchase a gown from a store front window have been blessed. Grooms, families of the wedding couple as well as wedding parties, have been outfitted from head to toe all because of CHRISTIAN LOVE!



Receiving a Bride's Blessing

Leah is an Orthodox Jew. She invited us to attend her wedding, which took place in Ashdod. First, we were able to go to her house and help her get ready, then we went to the beach together where she was having some photographs taken. The wedding took place in a Synagogue and when we arrived, the men went inside to pray and the ladies stayed out in the hall. **The bride brought excitement to all the women that were there, including myself and she started blessing each one of us.** When it came to my turn, she held my hands, prayed some blessings over me and said, "I have shared my heart with you and you know how I feel. Thank you for being with me on this special day of my life; thank you for listening to my stories and for accepting me for who I am." I was so touched by Leah's words and I thought to myself, "She is thanking me for accepting her as she is; should I not be the one who is thankful for her accepting me as a Christian?"

—Rocio Fordham, CFI Staff



Thank You for Making it Happen

"We would like to take the time and thank you for all that you have done for us. The dress was beautiful to start with and everything else just surpasses words. Please know that there are people in Israel that are truly grateful for all that you are doing for the people of Israel and especially for all the brides and grooms! Our wedding was everything that we had ever wished for, thank you for making that happen."

—Shilo & Sarah BH



Blessed by CFI Ministry

"We would like to express our gratitude for blessing us with amazing wedding bands and for all the clothing you allowed us to use during our wedding.

"We were truly blessed by your ministry. Thank you so much! Please continue to be a blessing to all!"

—Jeremiah & Rachel S.

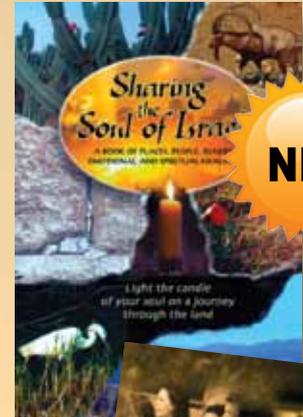
CFI BOOKSTORE ONLINE

“...but the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel” Proverbs 20:15.

SHARING THE SOUL OF ISRAEL

The author walks with you through 23 key locations helping you understand and share the Soul of Israel.

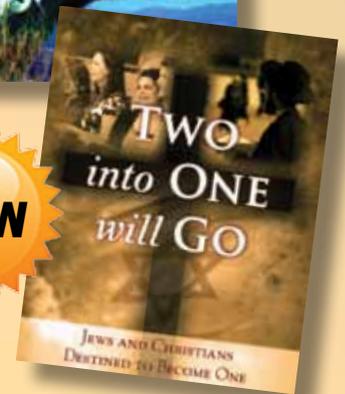
BOOK MARIE-THERESE FEUERSTEIN US \$15.00 (157 PAGES)



TWO INTO ONE WILL GO

This book deals with how a single belief system set up by God has “morphed into two different, separate religions at odds with each other.”

BOOK MICHAEL COHEN US \$20.00 (190 PAGES)



CFI TREASURES

Do you like surprises? If so, then this is the item for you. For \$25.00 you get a selection (we choose the resources) of items that would normally cost at least \$50! We will take into account any other items purchased when making your selection.

MULTI-PACK US \$25.00 (SELECTION FROM BOOKSTORE)



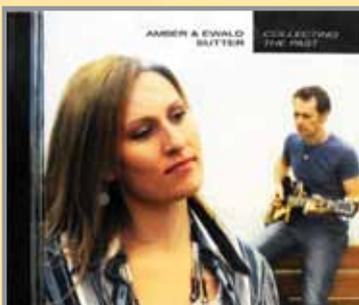
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Set of five blank panoramic cards by Photozion with scripture on the outside. Five of the displayed cards will be chosen. If you have a preference as to which cards you would like, please let us know and if possible that is what we will send.

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COLLECTING THE PAST

A new album by Amber & Ewald Sutter, CFI German Representatives, featuring 12 new tracks of vocal Christian music.

CD AMBER & EWALD SUTTER US \$18.00 (57 MIN.)

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Please visit us online for these and more great resources on our website. *Watch for specials!*



Spreading the Word

A pro-Israel conference was held in Johnson County in **Cleburne, Texas**. It drew over 600 people to promote awareness and tremendous interest in Israel, Jewish Roots of Christianity and the Jewish people.

Merlin and Margaret Hampton, CFI America's Representatives, participated in the event by hosting a CFI ministry booth and had the opportunity to speak to many about CFI. CFI America assisted with decorating for the dinner. The Hamptons are extraordinary people with a heart to see CFI Jerusalem continue its vital work. To be a part of this work contact CFI America at: mhampton1@sbcglobal.net.



CFI America



CFI France General Assembly Meets

CFI France hosted their annual General Assembly with the team, near Valence to encourage each other in the continued expansion of CFI. Although two members were missing, from left to right is: Jacques et Joëlle Charrat-Boutique, councilor and editor, Christian Picot, accounts department; Massimo et Rachel Marengo, web master/graphic designer; Etienne Boissy, secretary; Maité Choteau, translator; Hélène Van Nieuwenhuyse, CAI newspaper writer and Public Relations along with her husband, André Van Nieuwenhuyse: President. Contact Andre at: caifrance@gmail.com.



CFI France

New CFI Belgium Representative



We welcome Salvatore Minacapelli as the new CFI Representative in Belgium. His parents, native of Italy, moved to Belgium after WWII. Salvatore was born in Belgium and has a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He worked as Quality and Technical Support Manager for a US aircraft tire company until recently. He has traveled in many nations, and is married with two children and three grandchildren. A new Belgium Committee Board was formed in October 2012 and Salvatore has been appointed as President of CFI Belgium. His leadership role will be

such a blessing for the Church in Belgium in regard to Israel. Contact Salvatore Minacapelli at: s.minacapelli@skynet.be



CFI Belgium



Awakening Canadian Christians to Jewish Roots

Rev. Ken Smith has already awakened Christians in the great nation of Canada. Ken and his wife organized a **Holocaust Remembrance Day** with dignitaries from the Jewish community. New Area Representatives for Alberta and Western Canada have just been added. CFI Canada was in attendance at the District Conference of British Columbia Fellowship with many pastors and delegates. CFI sponsored a booth at two Missions Fests in Vancouver and Edmonton also. The new CFI Canadian Charity status is nearly completed and a Canadian bank account will soon be established. For more information contact Ken at: revken.smith@telus.net.



CFI Canada



New CFI Holland Representative

Our great excitement continues with the appointment of Kyre van Opstal in the Netherlands. He is married to Grace and has one daughter married and two grandchildren. Kyre has been teaching about the Jewish foundation of the faith through CFI's Keshet Course for many years.

He is now establishing a new CFI representation in Holland, a nation which has stood faithfully in the past with the Jewish people. If you are Dutch and would like to translate CFI literature and publications please contact Kyre van Opstal at: cfinetherlands@gmail.com



CFI Holland

New CFI Branch – Goa, India

A New Team has been formed as the Co-ordination Committee in Goa, on the west coast of India. This area is populated with Roman Catholic and evangelical congregations. CFI Representative Ephraim Smith travelled through thick forests at night to reach this city of one million people. CFI was well received. Distribution of For Zion’s Sake and other literature was also well received.

A large gathering was planned for CFI in Goa on May 14, 2013. The new Goa State Co-ordinator is Mr. Dominic Savio Coutinho and his wife Crecencia Inacinha Coutinho. Members of the new Goa Board are Misters Praxedes Michael Correa, Iva Fjel, Anand Raju, Allan D’Souza and Anthony Rayan. Please pray for this new team in their endeavors to awaken the Church toward Israel in Goa.



CFI Goa Team with Ephraim Smith



Teaching about Israel to the Church

 **CFI India** Contact Ephraim Smith at: zion_india@yahoo.com

New CFI Congo Representative

Sharon Sanders’ uncle, Archie Graber, was a missionary to Africa many years ago. The story comes full circle back to Sharon when our newly appointed Bishop Kahlala in Kinshasha, sent a photo to Sharon of her uncle during his years of service in the Congo. On fire for Israel, Bishop Kahlala came up to Jerusalem for the CFI AGM Representative meeting held after the CFI Conference in May. In his report about the growth of CFI in the Congo, were the amazing testimonies of the prayer and intercession groups springing up in monthly prayer for Israel groups, as Watchmen on the Walls for Jerusalem through CFI. An amazing work has begun in the Congo. Pray for the Bishop and his leaders as they plan a CFI Conference in the fall and send their sacrificial gifts.

 **CFI Congo** Contact Bishop Kahlala at: cfidrcongo@gmail.com



Bishop Kahlala



Bishop Kahlala’s Congregation

New Zealand Holocaust Memorial Event

Memorial Park in Hamilton, New Zealand, was the site and celebration of CFI New Zealand’s Representative Dennis McLeod’s initiative to hold a joint tree planting event between Jews and Christians on the occasion of Holocaust Memorial Day. In attendance was the Israeli Embassy’s Chargé d’affaires, the Mayor of Hamilton, local MP’s and the Race Relations Officer as well as other invited guests. The Jewish Society was very grateful to Christian Friends of Israel New Zealand for organizing the event and are hoping for more cooperation and events to be jointly sponsored.

 **CFI New Zealand** Contact Dennis McLeod at: cfi@ihug.co.nz

Dennis McLeod with Chargé d’affaires Remembering families lost in the Holocaust Guests at Event





Placing People in their Calling! *God's Champions*

The Bible teaches us about diverse people from many nations who are gifted and equipped with many talents. Paul speaks to us in the book of Corinthians about the different gifts and callings to serve. CFI-Jerusalem is a CHRISTIAN TEAM pulling together in the same direction to accomplish God's work. As we place people, we try to place them in their calling. There is nothing more fulfilling than using your talents and giftings for the advancement of God's Kingdom: especially when it is in Jerusalem! Please contact us now and begin the process of applying with Christian Friends of Israel-Jerusalem: personnel@cfijerusalem.org.

Essential Positions-Open Now!

- Multi Media/Graphic Designer • Tour and Conference Coordinator
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- Videographer • Assistant Cook

Go to: www.cfijerusalem.org and click on "Volunteer" to learn more about our recent open positions.



Direct from Jerusalem

Living in Israel for 28 years plus her years of theological training at Good News Teaching Center, Christ For the Nations Bible College, and a long term student of Dr. Derek Prince and Lance Lambert puts Sharon in a **unique position of teaching on Israel and the Church.**

Sharon Sanders 2013 Speaking Schedule:

- United States - August
- Latin America - September
- Hong Kong, Taiwan, S. Korea, Japan, China, Singapore - November

For more information on Sharon's Ministry Itinerary, please contact: sharon@cfijerusalem.org. Check local Representative for details.



CHANGE OF ADDRESS: If you change your address, please notify us promptly, giving us both your old and your new address. E-mail: cfi@cfijerusalem.org or write to the CFI address below. Send all communication relating to *For Zion's Sake* to: CFI, PO Box 1813, Jerusalem 91015, ISRAEL.

CFI Representative Nearest You



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