



Light of Messiah Ministries

.....proclaiming Jesus, the Jewish Messiah!

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Coincidences????

It's exciting to be involved in Jewish ministry. **One never knows, from one day to the next, what is going to happen. Since we don't believe in coincidences, I want to share with you a few stories about what has happened to us over just the past month.** The following stories in no way cover all of the "divine appointments" we've had. However, I think that as you read them you will gain a sense of how the Lord unexpectedly throws things our way. **Since your prayers and support keep us "in the field", I want you to join us in our excitement regarding the marvelous work of the Lord through our ministry.**

The Potters Hand

I recently spent a week in North Carolina doing Passover services in churches around the state. My schedule was grueling as I covered the whole state over the course of the week and spoke in eleven churches in eight days. Needless to say, I was in the car a lot.

One service took me to the middle of the state near Seagrove, NC. I always love traveling in that area because my wife, Alana, and myself collect pottery from North Carolina. Seagrove is in the heart of the North Carolina pottery industry.

Unfortunately, because I was traveling from across the state, I got to Seagrove at about 5 o'clock, when most of the shops were closing. I also had to be at my church service by six. I wanted to get into at least one shop, but I didn't have very much time. **While driving down a small country road in the middle of rural North Carolina a pot-**



There are no coincidences with God!

tery shop sign caught my eye as I sped by. I only had a few minutes to get there before they closed. Even though I had already passed the sign, I turned my van around, and headed down an even smaller country road for about a mile until I saw the shop.

The shop was located behind a house in an old shed. Several dogs came running up the driveway barking at my van. The roosters and chickens ran away as I drove up to the house. I almost turned around and left, but then I saw the door of the house open and a young man came out. I rolled down my window and he invited me to come look at his pottery, assuring me that the dogs would not chew my leg off.

We walked into his pottery shed and I began to look over his pottery. It was beautifully crafted and very attractive. He began to tell me about himself and his wife who both made pottery in the shed. I picked up a piece of pottery to look at the signature and markings on the bottom and noticed that each piece of pottery had written on the bottom,

"Jesus Saves" or "God Bless You", as well as the signature of the potter.

"Jesus saves?!", I said, as I looked up at the man. "Yes," he said in his thick southern accent, and without missing a beat he continued, "A Jewish lady comes in here regularly to buy pitchers and she really gets upset with me for putting 'Jesus Saves' on the bottom of my pots." "She doesn't mind 'God Bless You', but she hates, 'Jesus Saves.'"

"I'm Jewish," I said! "Oh," he said, as a look of shock and "Boy did I put my foot in my mouth" expression came over his face. "But I believe in Jesus, too," I said!

We spent the next fifteen minutes talking about this lady who frequents his shop. His Jewish customer is the wife of a military person. She likes to give the pitchers to men and their wives in the service. We talked about sharing Jesus with the lady. I left the potter with a "Betrayed" book, my card, and a pamphlet on how to share his faith with his Jewish friend. I also bought a pitcher!

I left thanking God for bringing me to this man in the middle of rural North Carolina to give him information on how to minister to his Jewish client. Please pray!

Is The Doctor In?

I never know who is going to be at one of my church services. **I recently had a service at a local United Methodist Church when God sent someone our way who needed to hear what we had to say.**

After a recent Passover demonstration I shared my testimony and had a question and answer time. **The last person to raise his hand said, "Murray, I am probably the only other Jewish person here tonight. I was wondering why the Jewish people rejected Jesus in the first century?"** After answering his question, I thanked him that he came, and we concluded our service.

As I always do after a service, I went to my literature table to answer questions and help people with their book purchases. The last person to come to the table was Steve, the middle aged Jewish man who asked me the question. **Steve told me that his wife was a member of the church, that he had been going there for a while, and that he had been considering the claims of Jesus.** "Murray," he said, "I've been sitting on the fence for a long time. I've had a hard time getting this Jesus thing from my head to my heart, and, I am afraid of what my Jewish family will think."

I talked to Steve for about fifteen minutes. I encouraged him in his faith and asked him questions that clearly identified the fact that he believed in Jesus and understood the gospel.

I then asked him, "Steve, do you want to continue to sit in the fence, or are you ready to ask Jesus into your life?" "After talking to you, Murray, I think I am ready." "So, let's pray together," I said. Steve and I moved to a private area of the room. I prayed for him, led him in a prayer, and he prayed his first prayer to the Lord by himself as a believer. **Please pray for our new Jewish brother.**

What's Up, Baby?

Recently, a young woman called our office and left a message for what she believed to be a synagogue. She said she was Jewish and had a friend who had just had a baby who was in dire financial straits. She wondered if the ladies of the synagogue could help with diapers and baby clothes. Or, could we recommend some place she could go for help.



"The time of our Redemption"
HAPPY PASSOVER!!

It's no coincidence that our office manager, Casey, is a volunteer counselor at a crisis pregnancy center that offers programs to young mothers in financial distress. Casey called Melissa back to tell her that this was the type of program that her friend needed. When Casey shared the information with Melissa, she found out that Melissa's friend lived right down the street from the Crisis Pregnancy Center in Gwinnett County where Casey volunteers!

Casey began to ask Melissa questions about why she called us. Melissa apparently found us in the yellow pages and thought we were a synagogue. **Casey explained to Melissa that we were not a synagogue, but an outreach to the Jewish community. She also explained that we believe that Jesus is the Jewish Messiah. Melissa did not seem hostile to the idea, in fact, she showed an interest.** In the meantime, our accountant walked in the office, figured out what was going on, and began to pray.

Melissa was interested in hearing more. Casey shared the gospel with

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Melissa and gave her all of the reasons why Jesus is the Jewish Messiah. Melissa listened, asked questions, and seemed very open to what Casey was sharing with her. **After sharing the Gospel with Melissa, Casey asked if she believed it and wanted to ask Jesus into her life. Melissa said yes! So, Casey prayed with Melissa over the telephone to ask Jesus to be her salvation!**

Melissa has called the office several times since then with questions about her new faith. Casey has also begun to disciple Melissa.

Pray for Melissa to grow strong in her faith. Also, pray for Melissa's young friend as well. Her need for diapers brought about Melissa's encounter with Jesus.

Thank You!

Our ministry is here to be available to the Lord to do the work that He has called us to do. **It always amazes our staff at how God beings Jewish people across our path.** Whether it is in a church, through a phone call, or through the Yellow Pages, God gets the people to us who He wants us to meet. **The fact that our ministry is here to answer those "calls" is very important.** We're glad to be here!

I want to thank you for standing with us in our efforts to reach Jewish people with the message of Jesus. Jewish people are responding to the Gospel in increasing numbers. Thank you for sending us out to tell the Story to those who are searching. **We need your prayers and financial support now more than ever.** Thank you! Until next month...

For the staff,

Murray Tilles
Light of Messiah Ministries