



# Light of Messiah Ministries

...Bringing Jesus to the Jewish People

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## A Tale of Two Friends

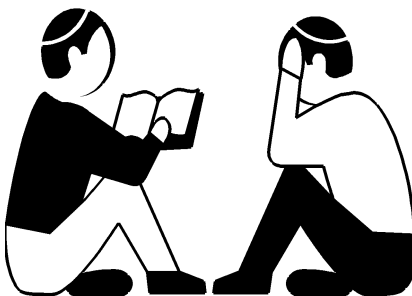
**H**ow do we meet Jewish people? It is a question I often get. One thing is for sure, we are not ever invited to the synagogue to see who might be interested in talking to us about Jesus. Very rarely will Jewish people call us and ask us how they can be saved (although it has happened)! **Usually we meet Jewish people through Christians. Believers in Jesus. People like you.**

I have a friend who has a friend. That is how it usually happens. A friend who cares calls us. They have a Jewish friend. We can help. Sometimes the friendships are new. At other times the friendships are longstanding. **The important part of the equation is that one has Jesus...and the other needs Jesus.** When Christians care enough to tell their Jewish friend about what they have in Christ the journey begins.

**I asked one of my friends to share a little bit of her story (and I will share the other one).** Maybe God will speak to you through what she has to share. We have known each other for many years. We met because she called. I have met with her, and her Jewish friend, many times. My first encounter with her Jewish friend was during a Shalom Basket delivery. The relationship continues...

### A Ten Year Friendship

*It is Christmas Eve day and I am busy in preparation for the holiday. I am taking a moment to gather my thoughts about my journey with my Jewish friend. **It has been a ten year relationship that has grown into a very special friendship.***



*When my friend and I met years ago, I knew very little about the Jewish people or their faith. **Like many other Christians, I feared offending her with any talk about Jesus.** Mainly, we talked in general about our places of worship or holidays. She married a man who was Catholic so there has always been an awareness of the practices of the Christian faith in her home.*

*As God would have it, over the years, circumstances lead us to travel much the same road. Each of us lost very significant people in our lives. I lost a close loved one. She lost her sister after a lengthy illness. We had similar health related surgeries and family issues. **During those times I always made it a point to let her know that God cared and was with her.** Occasionally I would ask her if I could pray with her, and for her. In her own weak and needy state she always let me pray.*

*One of the highlights of my journey with her was taking her out for an evening away from the kids to see the **Light of Messiah Ministries Passover meal at the Marriott.** As we dined that evening it was so interesting to have her explain the meaning of the Jewish traditions to the Christians at our table. She sang along with Murray in Hebrew*

*and had a chance to even speak to him afterwards.*

*On the way home in the car God opened a door for me to give her my testimony. When we pulled in the driveway and stopped the car I prayed for the both of us. Murray has always told me that as Christians we need to know all we can about the life of our Messiah, who was a Jew. We need to know the traditions and meaning behind them. I have told my friend on more than one occasion that I cannot think of anything more wonderful than to be born a Jew and to believe in Jesus too. That is the best of blessings!*

*My friend has also taught me a lot about the Jewish people and faith. I have attended her synagogue and even helped serve a meal at an event she hosted at another synagogue. I remember walking into the temple and standing there amidst all the Jewish people. I felt such compassion for them as God's chosen, and the suffering they have endured. I have such a longing for them all to come to know Jesus, their Messiah.*

*My interest in her Jewish faith has not only taught me a great deal, but has made it easy and comfortable for me to talk about my faith as well. We have come to a place of mutual respect for each others beliefs in our friendship.*

*Recently my friend has gone through another personal crisis in her marriage. We have talked about it. I have encouraged her. She knows I am here. Now, quite often, rather than me asking her if I can pray, the most amazing thing has started happening. She is asking me to pray for her! Of course I am*

*happy to pray and during my prayers, in my mind, I ask God to open my friends eyes.*

*Though my friend has yet to come to know her Messiah I know that the time we have shared together, the tears and the laughter, are going to impact her greatly. I believe that God is going to use all of it so that one day she will recognize that what I have is what she needs. And I believe she is almost there.*

These two people have gone through a lot together. A ten year relationship. A believer who has stepped out of her comfort zone and is openly sharing her life, and her faith, with her Jewish friend. **Believe it or not, most Jewish people are open to being prayed for.** When I first met the lady who just shared her story, she had a lot of questions. She needed to know what to do. She has done a great job. And God is using her.

**I recently received a call from another Christian whose life has intersected a Jewish man's life.** Let me tell you another story. The story of another relationship...just beginning.

#### A New Friendship Established

My friend Joe is a doctor. Joe prays every day for people to talk to about Jesus. He prays for divine appointments. **Four months ago Daniel walked in.**

During an initial treatment one day Dr. Joe said, "*Daniel, that is a biblical name. I have read a lot about Daniel in the Bible.*" "*Oh really,*" Daniel said, "*Well I am Jewish and I am familiar with Daniel too. What have you read?*"

**Joe found out that Daniel was a religious Jewish man, but open to discussing other religions.** During their visits in the office Joe and Daniel have been talking about spiritual issues and the Bible. Joe has challenged Daniel to explore the scriptures. At one point while discussing messianic prophecies Daniel asked Joe, "*Who do you think*



*the Messiah is?" "Jesus of course,"* was Joe's response. Joe showed Daniel Jeremiah 31 and other messianic prophecies. **Daniel was so shocked that he went to his rabbi to ask him to explain some of the scriptures they were discussing.** Daniel has also encouraged Joe to learn more about Judaism.

**Their conversations have continued and their relationship is deepening.** Joe and Daniel are now meeting on occasion outside of Joe's office. Joe called me and I will be meeting with the two of them in a few weeks to answer questions that Daniel has for me.

**Though Daniel is not searching for Jesus right now he is asking real questions and searching for the truth.** The relationship has just begun. It is our prayer that one day Daniel's search will lead him to his Messiah Jesus.

**Friendships. Relationships. You and your Jewish friends.** That is how we come into contact with most of the Jewish people who we lead to the Lord. Please remember to use our ministry as a resource. We are here for you. If you have a Jewish friend, call us.

#### How to Contact Us

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## Passover Banquet 2008

**Our annual Passover Banquet is being held at the Marriott in Alpharetta, GA, on Saturday evening, March 22nd.** Come join us for an incredible evening of music, food, and learning about the Jewish roots of our faith.

Last year nearly 400 people joined us for one of our most exciting nights of the year. Make your reservations now!

**We must have your reservations by Saturday, March 15th.**

**We encourage you to bring your friends and small groups as well as your Jewish friends.** Please use the enclosed order form or call our office to make reservations at 770-642-4706.

**You may also order tickets online at [www.lightofmessiah.org](http://www.lightofmessiah.org).**


## Thank You!

I am hoping that this year will be a year of breakthroughs. **I am hoping that more churches and individuals will use our ministry to help them with their Jewish friends.** Because, it is through those relationships that Jewish people hear about Jesus. Join us in prayer to that end.

**Thank you for loving the Jewish people.** Thank you for praying. Thank you for standing with us as we bring Jesus back to the Jewish community.

**As always, your prayers and financial support make what we do possible.**

In the service of the King,

  
 Murray Tilles...for the staff  
 Light of Messiah Ministries