*For Zion’s Sake*

**TORAH**

**Jesus and His Unshakeable Connection to**

**The Jewish Scriptures**

**Christian Friends of Israel**

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**Dear Christian friends of Israel:**

**We live in very challenging** and exciting times. While Israel is presently keeping secure and protecting our northern border with Lebanon, that means the IDF soldiers are again in “harms way” fighting for the nation of Israel. Arab Palestinians continue to attempt to re-write history as if Israel does not exist and that it will go away if they continue to be a “thorn” in Israel’s flesh.

Deception runs very strong among the Palestinians who have not seen the light of God’s Love, met Jesus as their Savior and continue to believe the lie that Israel does not exist in “their” land. The corona virus has taken us all by surprise. The country falls deeper and deeper into debt and more people without incomes to support their families. There are many challenges for the Netanyahu government as well as for Benny Gantz overseeing defense situations at present. Israelis are asking themselves “will there be another round of elections” coming our way?

In this global upside down world we are living in, chaos, violence, hatred and bloodshed abound, we must continue to study God’s Word, the Bible and to know that there is nothing happening that God does not already know about. Repentance by nations for their forsaking God, repentance by Israel for not following God’s ways, but that of the nations, is in order.

Please stay with us and help us continue to seek the blessing through blessing Israel and not falling under a curse by forsaking them. You are our pillars and we must continue our important work in preparing the way for the Lord. God bless each and every one of you who will say yes to helping us. You will never be forgotten and the challenges of our times and the trials of our days will pass and we will know we have stayed on the Lord’s Side.

**God bless you all. Love from the CFI Staff in Jerusalem.**

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**WE ARE NOW LIVING IN OUR FUTURE**

***“What has been is what will be, what has been done is what will be done,***

***and there is nothing new under the sun”* (Ecclesiastes1:9)**

**The future is Now…and Always has Been.**

As Christians who have received from God a love for Israel and the Jewish people, and who want to bless them in the name of Messiah Jesus, the continued efforts and opportunities of Christian Friends of Israel remain firmly planted upon our Foundational Principles established within the Vision God has privileged us to carry.

The CFI Foundational Principles motivate us to continue standing with Israel as our Biblical mandate to uphold Israel and Her right to exist. Our very purpose of serving the people of Israel and relating to them is defined within these Principles. The Biblical Principles don’t fade away, they aren’t replaced, nor are they revocable.

As the Nation of Israel is being tested during this time of history, our Outreach Teams are finding creative ways to remain committed to practical assistance to the people of Israel. We remain committed to reach out to the Nations with timeless teachings - teachings that by definition, are in fact timeless, and always applicable. We realize that God really does mean what He says, and to challenge His Eternal Words can only lead to disastrous consequences.

What began as a global pandemic affecting certainly the health and well-being of anyone who contracted the Covid-19 virus, has quickly elevated into a global pandemic of dis-information, misuse of authority, financial instability, increased violence, governmental fractures and an immeasurable amount of potentially deadly consequences in part due to due to fear and a lack of trust – in, yes, the Foundational Principles and Truths found in the eternal Words of God.

We have a couple of choices; we can understand that the enemy is the author of confusion, and absolutely must realize what he, as the author, is publishing. Could it be that the distributors of his propaganda are possibly some in the news media business, or those in academic positions, who have an unfiltered opportunity to influence the younger generation? Is it possible that his writings and scripts are willingly being disseminated as truth to the world and taught to those in schools?

The other choice is to understand who the Author of Truth is. Of course we are speaking of God’s eternal Word. His Publication, if you will, shall not fade away, has not and cannot be replaced, and is absolutely irrevocable. An excerpt from the main teaching article in the 2011 CFI *‘For Zion’s Sake’* publication highlights that Godly inspired teachings are in fact timeless…

**Choose to Believe or Not**

Henry Blackaby said: “Since Adam and Eve, people have had to choose who to believe. Satan convinced them that disobeying God would gain them everything. Instead it robbed them of all they had, and for the rest of their lives they experienced only a fraction of the blessing God intended…” Man’s degradation began at the fall of mankind: but how low can creation stoop when it points its finger in God’s Face and questions the One who spoke everything into being!

The countdown to the “twelve o’clock gong” (I do not mean the doomsday or the end of time) is a summons to all of us that we are approaching days that may change history (as we know it). We clearly see that the enemies of Israel are arrogantly challenging God’s Plans and Purposes for the nation. It is a pretentious persuasion being used – influencing others by employing the methods of casting doubt on God’s eternal words. We could be close to a period of intense darkness. It is my opinion that man is hitting rock bottom when they openly attempt to make God’s Word obsolete to fit their own agendas.

The Scriptures have to be our bedrock foundation! The devil tries to weaken our stand for Israel through questioning, replacing, and doubting the Sacred Writings. Satan is a schemer, a destroyer and a thief, who desires worship for himself that belongs to God alone. We must be aware of his ways. Yeshua taught us, ***“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God”* (Matthew 4:4)**. At present much of the Church is engaged in an intense spiritual struggle to not relinquish one‘s faith in God’s Word and waver in their devotion to Him. (Sharon Sanders, *‘For Zion’s Sake’* 1st Quarter 2011)

As we continue to pray for and stand alongside Israel and the Jewish people, we are committed to encouraging them with their initial assignment to the world…that is to be a Light to the Nations. “If the future truly is now, then we do well applying yet more of our Master Yeshua’s words: ***“Watch out for false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruit...”* (Matthew 7:15, 16)*.*** If anyone attempts to dissuade us from following after the ways of God, then they are considered false prophets. The list of current events which cause us to, at the very least, consider whether our thoughts, action, and deeds align with His ways, is certainly a lengthy one. Regardless of the sources of the tests being offered before us, they are nonetheless tests. We ultimately must remain steadfast to our faith and resist the temptation to compromise in order to pass the tests of the day.

***“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord!’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father…Then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you. Get away from Me, you workers of lawlessness!’”* (Matthew 7:21,23).** Lawlessness is seemingly in abundant supply and on full display these recent months, and yet again, we are reminded of our accountability for our deeds. As disciples of Jesus, we strive to seek God’s Kingdom and His righteousness, and then trust. Our prayers are that there will be a wave of recognition toward God and His way’s. The words of Jesus should not be taken lightly.

“***Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock”* (Matthew 7:24).** We pray that we are doers of what God has told us to do, and as we continue to pray for and stand alongside Israel and the Jewish people, we are committed to encouraging them with their initial assignment to the world…that is to be a Light to the Nations.

**Jim McKenzie**

**Director of Operations**

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**Personnel Posts**

***“God allows us to experience the low points of life in order to teach us***

***lessons that we could learn in no other way.”* ― C.S. Lewis**

**Personnel Posts** is a new addition to ***For Zion’s Sake***. These posts will include news about our CFI Jerusalem Volunteers, recruitment, and articles on relevant topics that are current to our staff and hopefully will be to you for encouragement, inspiration, and vision for the future, possibly with CFI. We look forward to hearing your response from the nations.

***“Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge...even the Most High, your dwelling place, No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling”* (Psalm 91:9-10).**

**Bulletin Board:** COVID-19, has affected the whole world. Israel was one of the first countries that were affected, but they also took immediate action to reduce the effects on the people. Today our nation is beginning to operate step-by-step in a normal mode of operations.

The global plague has impacted people everywhere. At CFI, many of our volunteers continued their work from home, while being quarantined. God has also taken the time with each of us to speak into our lives and showed us the importance of personal time with Him. One CFI staff member shared a few thoughts below as to what this time of isolation at home has meant to her personally.

**Jo Fernandez- USA-Operation’s Coordinator** “The lock-down has been an opportunity for me to go into a time of solitude and retreat. **I spent much time in prayer,** by myself and with others, through teleconferencing. **Connection with others has been good.** It has been a wonderful experience of **growing in patience and waiting on God**. I have been thankful for my time even walking to the grocery store, and **thankful for the generosity of others** through various gifts.”

**Norene Fritz, Human Resource Coordinator**

**Behind the Scenes**

Enrique during Purim celebration

Maggie’s seder during Covid-19

Linda preparing for Shabbat during Covid-19

**Postings - Two Year Term Commitment**

**Positions Open in Jerusalem Headquarters**

Administrative Assistant

Multi Media Positions: Media Production,

Graphic Artist and Website Social Media

Bi-Lingual Translators Needed:

Russian-English, Amharic-English and Hebrew-English

**Please send your inquiry to Norene Fritz at:** **personnel@cfijerusalem.org**

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**TORAH**

**Jesus and His Unshakeable Connection to The Jewish Scriptures**

***“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us...”* (John 1:14, KJV).**

***“On the one hand he strengthened the Torah of Moses majestically...and not one of our Sages spoke out more emphatically concerning the immutability of the Torah.”***

(25 prominent rabbis from Israel and abroad, Israel Today, January 2020)

**Jesus gave the Torah** (what Christians call the “Old” Testament) more power when He proclaimed that not even the smallest letter would pass away until its purpose is complete. ***“...verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled”* (Matthew 5:18).** Jesus also said whoever tries to weaken even one of the smallest commandments (in the “Old” Testament) will be the least-esteemed and regarded as small in the Kingdom **(Matthew 5:19)**. Have Christians perhaps misread and maybe even mischaracterized His relationship with the Hebrew Scriptures? If the Torah is dead and no longer applicable then why did Jesus stand up and teach it and why does He, as King, read it to the nations as prophesied in Isaiah 2:3? The Church continues to lay aside the very commandments which God said, ***“...would never pass away”* (Matthew 24:35)**.The conclusion of the matter is that the controversy Jesus had with His religious friends was to “show *how best to observe the Law, but none, it is argued, about whether to observe it*...Jesus was a staunch defender of the Torah against what He perceived to be threats to it from the Pharisees.”(Jewish Gospels, Rabbi Daniel Boyarin).

The word “immutability” used by the rabbis in the above quote shows that God is unchanging in His Character, Will, and Covenant Promises from Genesis to Malachi. Also, what is written from Matthew to Revelation–is “written.” If every Bible in the world were destroyed, it would not change God’s Everlasting Words. Sadly, there is a famine of the Word in many churches. ***“Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord GOD, “That I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine of bread, Nor a thirst for water, But of hearing the words of the LORD”* (Amos 8:11).** Sermons filled with the “meat” of God’s Word are rare from today’s pulpits and often leave the sheep hungry when they depart. The Torah was always in the Heart of Jesus. If one throws out the Torah, they are throwing the Lord’s Words away as He was and is the *“Living Torah.”* It was the basis for His answers, and His questions to others. The New Testament is built firmly upon the “Old” Testament.

**Jesus will Deliver the Torah**

While attending church camp in my youth, we would hear the early morning bugle, indicating it was time to rise and pledge allegiance to the American flag and then attend prayer services. May this message bear the sound of allegiance to God’s Words and present a call to arms t**o read the whole Counsel of God**. If Jesus loved the Torah so much, if He taught only from the Hebrew Scriptures at the time, He was alive on earth, and if Jesus was and is the “Living Torah” made flesh, then why have Christians been taught to ignore it? It’s time to blow the bugle and wake everyone up!

I read recently of a Christian speaking to his neighbor. “My priest told me the Old Testament is no longer relevant, and, as Christians, we only need to read the New Testament. So I don’t base anything on the Old Testament.” With hardly a thought, the Old Testament was dismissed as ancient and outdated information. (Story from Friends of Israel, www.foi.org). How sad but this is just the tip of the iceberg.

Speaking of icebergs, they are usually a small part of a much bigger problem period. A famous ship (the Titanic) once sank because it ignored an iceberg. The “Church” has hit an iceberg when it comes to its *“missing link”* (Israel) and the ignorance of the Torah is shocking to our Jewish friends who are surprised at how little Christians know about God’s Words from the *whole* Bible! They find it difficult to believe that Christians would read only the New Testament and leave out the foundation upon which it stands. It is easy to see Christians have been “programmed” by Church Fathers who believed in Replacement Theology. The end result is a generation of Christians who have been taught to forsake the Hebrew Scriptures, fear the mention of it, or worse yet, freeze when they hear the word “Torah!” If only in their minds, they have thrown it into the dust bin.

Time is running out. How can anyone’s lamps be burning if they snuff out the Torah? Torah will always live on as the basis of the teachings of Jesus because of His Jewish background. When the Coming Kingdom is established on earth, it will be Jesus who will deliver “the Law” from Zion to the world. Jesus, as King and Messiah, will speak the words of His Father to the nations. ***“And many people will go and...He will teach us His Ways...Torah will go forth from Zion and the Word of Adonai from Jerusalem”* (Isaiah 2:3; Micah 4:2-3).** If Christians forsake Torah now, will it not sound strange coming from the lips of Messiah?

The Jewish baby Yeshua (Jesus) that was born, arrived to a Jewish world and into the home of an observant Orthodox couple (Yosef and Miriam), a/k/a Joseph and Mary in Christianity, who lived by the Torah in His childhood home. Most Christians today get as nervous as a cat on hot bricks and work themselves up into a state of extreme nervous worry about being drawn “under the Law.” Immediately they think “bondage.” We are living in days similar to the days of Noah. The people of Noah’s day were into every wicked way there was—including genetic alterations. God’s creation is again being manipulated through AI (artificial intelligence) and God’s Holy Word is being ignored. The planet on which we live is heading towards a “no boundaries for anyone–live as you please” world where lawlessness abounds. ***“And because lawlessness is increased, most people’s love will grow cold...”* (Matthew 24:12)**. Mankind was never meant to live without rules and guidelines.

What is termed the “Old” Testament teaches us what is “clean and unclean” and “holy” and “defiled.” Paul reminds us that ***“Whatever things were written before were written for our learning”* (Romans 15:4)**. Some Christians forget that ***“all Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness”*** **(2 Timothy 3:16)**. The Hebrew Psalmist clearly states ***“The teaching of HaShem*** ***(the Lord) is perfect...making the eyes light up”* (Psalm 19:8)*.*** Where were we ever taught the deception that we don’t have to study the entire Bible—but only the “New” Testament? There is absolutely no evidence anywhere to prove that Jesus ever put an end to the Jewish Scriptures...as I said at the beginning, He gave it more power by His Words.

The Lord’s main contention in the New Testament was with the religious and how they interpreted God’s Word from their own traditions and commentaries. He did not question the Torah. He questioned men. Those who had added to God’s Words and the way in which they defined it. Christianity has also added to God’s Word through creeds, dogmas and extra-Biblical traditions. We must be very careful to follow God’s Word as God gave it and as it was written down on the Scrolls of ancient history.

Jesus did not come to fulfill the New Testament, He came to fulfill the Torah. (There was no New Testament at the time.) Jesus kept the Law perfectly for us, and paid the debt we owed. He can never be separated from His Father’s Words in the Scrolls. Torah and the New Testament, connect in wonderful ways and confirm one another beautifully as all Scripture leads to the Father—the ultimate One True and Almighty God—and Jesus is our High Priest before God.

If the Jewish Scriptures show that Paul was still Torah observant some 25 years after his revelation of the Messiah, shouldn’t it cause Christians to rethink the traditions of Church fathers who preached against the Torah? Jesus reminds us, ***“In everything, then, do to others as you would have them do to you. For this is the Law and the Prophets”* (Matthew 7:12).**

**The Didache: Teachings of the Apostles**

Toby Janicki creates an indispensable scholarly resource for believers in Jesus in his book *“The Way of Life,”* the rediscovered teachings of the twelve Jewish apostles to the Gentiles called the Didache. Jewish believers in Jesus maintain that neither Yeshua nor His first followers envisioned a separate and distinct faith movement outside of, or disconnected from, the Judaism of Jesus. They never started a new religion, but rather, understood themselves as a sect within the Jewish community.

Faithful to the Torah, the early Jewish believers were loyal to Yeshua the Nazarene and proclaimed His message of repentance and the Coming Kingdom announced by the prophets. From the Didache, we learn that the early believing community had visiting teachers, and it asserts that those who supported and upheld the Torah “should be received as from the Lord.” Noel Rabinowitz, Ph.D., Professor of Biblical Studies, Israel Study Center suggests, “It will make some cringe to suggest that the early church *(ekklesia)* embraced Torah obedience as the benchmark of ethical behavior.” But today we look at truth, and not that which we’ve been taught by clerics and church forefathers in the past who had no revelation at all about their Hebraic foundations.

In the Kingdom to come on earth, religion will not rule. The King will reign and deliver the Holy Scriptures as His Father wants it them to be delivered. It will “go forth” to the nations, and He alone will deliver it–not rabbis, not scribes, not pastors—as the King of all Kings tabernacles among mankind. Won’t it be wonderful to spend an eternity learning the height, width, breadth and length of the love of God found in His Everlasting Words and to learn to cherish those Words? ***Let’s remember it was God’s Word in the Jewish Scriptures that resurrected a nearly dead nation when all hope was lost! The words came alive and brought the People of Israel back to life!***  Church in the nations!

Do we really want to throw those Eternal Words of God “in the dust bin” or continue to disregard them because we are afraid of “coming under the law?” We need to rid our people of this fear. Granted, Israel still cannot see Jesus; however, let us not in arrogance and spiritual pride continue to feel that they are spiritually dead, for they are far from it. Along with the return to Israel has come a deep searching of understanding God and His Words.

**All Scripture is Divinely Inspired**

In a previous issue of *For Zion Sake,* I wrote about Paul always calling for his Torah Scrolls (on parchments in ancient times) when he was on his journeys. (You can view that issue by visiting the CFI website).\* He let everyone know that he could not do without them! ***“Bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas when you come—and the books, especially the parchment”* (2 Timothy 4:13)*.*** If this be the case for Paul, then how can the Church ignore 77% of the Bible? There are 283 direct quotations from the Hebrew Scriptures in the New Testament. In the American Standard Version of the Bible, the words “It is written” appears 913 times–the Revised Standard Version 924 times and in Young’s Literal Translation 971 times.

We must always remember that ***“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God”* (Matthew 4:4).**Jesus said, ***“What I teach is not mine, but belongs to Him that sent me”* (John 7:16).** While the Torah itself cannot make one perfect before God, our High Priest modified it but did not abolish it; therefore, its principles, ethic and moral codes, what is “clean and unclean” stand as unchangeable according to the Master.

Do you know of someone who might be thirsty for living water but will not read the “Old” Testament? Why not begin to pray that the whole counsel of God might open up as it happened to the disciples of Jesus while walking on the dusty roads of Israel as recorded in **Luke 24:15-32**. For many, once we took a sip from the wells of Jacob, the very words Our Lord Jesus drank from daily and lived out, only made us become more thirsty to study deeper both the Torah along with the New Testament.

I agree with the rabbis—***no one has ever spoken about the ageless and permanent immutability of the Old Testament like Jesus.***

**"But at the end of days...Torah will go forth from Zion and the Word of Adonai fromJerusalem"Isaiah2:3;Micah"4:2-3.**

**"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that Proceeds from the mouth of God"Matthew4:4.**

**Sharon Sanders**

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**CFI Wall of Prayer**

**Israel Watch Prayer Network**

**Restoring Prayer for Israel from the Nations**

Our Vision: The Israel Watch prayer network is positioned to be “eyes and ears” discerning even the slightest movement in the spiritual realm that would indicate either assault against or advancement of the purposes of God in the nation of Israel, at CFI, and the world. The watchmen from the nations are being mobilized from Jerusalem to take the appropriate action: to fight battles through prayer or to rejoice in the Spirit. If you have a CFI Representative in your nation, please go to the CFI Jerusalem website, click on your flag and write to the Representative on how you can pray for Israel. For all other nations, please write to us at prayer@cfijerusalem.org.

**Our Goals and Objectives:**

**1.** Raise up International Prayer Teams to defend Israel and all CFI staff with Divine protection. To battle spiritual forces that attempt to stop the fulfillment of God’s promises to set up His Kingdom in Jerusalem.

**2.** To connect the Body of Christ globally to Israel as we rally around her and to support one another in worship and intercession.

**3.** To actively link our worldwide prayer leaders to Jerusalem and to one another.

**4.** To keep our prayer team abreast of urgent prayer concerns.

**5.** To physically connect prayer warriors directly to the land and the people of Israel.

**6.** To provide prayer for the nations coming directly from Israel.

**In Carrying Out the Vision We Will**:

1. Recruit global prayer team leaders, clerical and technical helpers, translators, and intercessors.

2. Enlist and organize teams of committed prayer warriors from many nations.

3. Schedule video conference orientation, informational meetings; determine languages needed.

4. Continue circulating prayer newsletters to international prayer teams.

5. Revive the hearts of watchmen for Israel!

6. Reconvene regularly with team leaders via video conferencing to assess and report activities.

7. Schedule on-site prayer walks; invite international intercessors to Jerusalem to join us.

8. Pilot “Prayers from Jerusalem,” an opportunity for the nations to send in prayer requests to be addressed on Facebook ‘Live.’

**God is Arising and Building:**

You can be involved in a worldwide network of intercessors, prayer warriors and worshippers to usher in a new era of ‘returning to God through prayer for His Chosen Nation.’ ***“Pray for the peace of Jerusalem— May those who love you be at peace!”* (Psalm 122:6).** Rabbi Tuly Weisz explains this scripture, “When Jerusalem is confronted with conflict, the whole world suffers. Conversely, though, when Jerusalem is at peace, the entire world enjoys serenity.”

Prayer warriors, we need YOU! We need you to rise up with us and build a Wall of Prayer around the entire Nation of Israel. When you do, the blessings will flow back to your nation. Won’t you please join us?

With love from Jerusalem,

**Linda D. McMurray**

**Email:** **prayer@cfijerusalem.org**

**Join with us Now! Visit CFI website Wall of Prayer**

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***Continuing to Bring Truth Out of Zion /* CFI MEDIA**

**Bringing Truth from Zion**

**“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path” (Psalm 119:105)**

**Focus in and Focus out the Noise**

In today’s connected, tech savvy world, the daily technology can be a real blessing in helping us do more than ever before. However, that increase in connectivity has also created an over-abundance of sheer technology “noise” that is constantly dropping emails, texts, alerts, headlines and the like into our everyday lives. Finding ways to filter out the fake news, the nonsense, and never-ending advertisements is at best challenging, if at times seemingly impossible.

For those needing to connect to Israel in a real and tangible way to find out the true report of what’s really happening on the ground, we at Christian Friends of Israel have created a collection of concise, condensed and scripturally sound media outlets for you to engage with.

Stay informed with the latest accurate information from Christian Friends of Israel – Jerusalem media sources, as you focus in on the real story of what’s happening in Israel and begin to tune out the noise and clutter from the secular media around us.

**Online Publications Providing Headline News and Prayer Points**

**Israel News Insights**

Providing readers with weekly headline stories, keeps you updated on the “big picture” stories of what Israel is doing and what they are dealing with.

**Watchman’s Prayer Letter**

Each month goes out to multitudes worldwide as fuel for intercessory prayer for the nation of Israel and the people here in the land.

**Raising the Bar**

Brings teachings for the church in the nations with a Hebrew perspective to further enrich the knowledge of the word of God.

**Wall of Prayer**

Our letter highlights specific geographic areas of Israel in desperate need of fervent prayer by intercessors**.**

**Sign Up for our monthly newsletters email:** **listadmin@cfijerusalem.org**

**Stay connected and informed by visiting us on social media:**

**Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Tumblr and Instagram. New CFI YouTube Channel. Find us on YouTube as Christian Friends of Israel**

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**DAVID’s SHIELD */ Supporting Brave Soldiers in Israel***

**Fulfilling its Mission...**

***“So the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing, with everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness; sorrow and sighing shall flee away”* Isaiah 51:11.**

*...The soldiers of the IDF are obligated to fight and devote every effort, even at the risk of their own lives, to protect the State of Israel, its citizens and residents… (****IDF Mission Statement).***

The preceding months have in most every way taught us to reconsider, reevaluate, adjust our thinking, and even limit our activities and way of life. However, our purpose, responsibilities and mission in the midst of a global pandemic should be unwavering as with the mission of the Israel Defense Forces, who stand undeterred to fulfil its mission to protect the State of Israel.

The global outbreak of COVID-19 has left many people in a heightened state of vulnerability. The IDF took part in numerous initiatives exhibiting dedication to its mission; A Nationwide food distribution operation to assist Israel’s elderly, an Intelligence Unit assisted the Ministry of Health to find innovative solutions to medical challenges. They adapted the BiPAP home ventilating device to monitor air pressure and filter pollution in COVID-19 patient rooms, and facilitated the manufacturing up to 1000 protective masks a day for medical teams. IDF teams developed special shields and air conditioning systems in ambulances, to enable driver’s safety. IDF technicians created information management software for the testing labs. The IDF Weapons Manufacturing Center was converted to produce protective goggles and spray guns for sanitizing purposes. And a Naval Commando Unit converted pressure cylinders to develop methods of compressing medical oxygen. During unique times when the mission of protecting its citizens calls, the IDF is fulfilling their mission and answering the call to serve.

**CFI Ready to Help**

CFI and Outreach Project David’s Shield stand ready to serve in solidarity with the efforts of the brave defenders of Israel. We encourage them at every opportunity that they are not only fulfilling their mission as IDF soldiers and Border Police in an admirable way, but also fulfilling the very words of God spoken through Isaiah “*The Lord will have compassion on Jacob; once again he will choose Israel and will settle them in their own land. Aliens will join them and unite with the house of Jacob”* (Isaiah 14:1 NIV).

Recent contributions to the efforts of Lone Soldier Center activities, permitted otherwise restricted visits with soldiers in remote positions, plus the continued support of special units, with needed items allowed for CFI Jerusalem and the goals of David’s Shield Outreach to be fulfilled. We are so grateful for recent letters and words of encouragement from you in the nations that are being shared with the soldiers who carry the burden of an ‘our watch’ assignment. Thank you for your continued support and prayers for the brave defenders of Israel.

**Jim McKenzie**

*David’s Shield*

*Outreach Supervisor*

*shield@cfijerusalem.org*

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**HOPE FOR THE FUTURE */ Helping Jewish Ethiopians***

**Giving others the Opportuniy to know God Cares**

**As CFI works with WIZO** (World Zionist Organization), Ms. Rachael Magnoli, reached out to CFI as the WIZO Chapter Director in Beni Brak. She continues to advocate for this community by addressing the needs of families. Prior to Passover, Rachel informed me of five families unable to celebrate a traditional dinner during the feast. She worked diligently to find outside support for as many of the families as she could. CFI Outreach Project Hope for the Future answered the call and looked for ways to serve the families in the safest ways possible. Our administrative and accounting departments diligently processed necessary funding in order for Rachel to provide for the very needy families. They were able to take part in a most amazing Passover festival in Israel as this year resembled as never before the actual account when the Israelite children were obedient to God, by shutting in their homes as the death spirit passed over.

**Sowing Seeds of Love**

Just before our city went into the home isolation mode, Hope for the Future had other application for assistance waiting to be processed, such as students in their last year of college reaching out to us for help. Public Transportation running on a compressed schedule, I met with the recipient in open spaces, being the hands and feet of the Lord! Most certainly, we were not given a spirit of fear but love and a sound mind. If someone would ask what does love looks like, I would say by demonstration! **Thank you for your support of the Project Hope for the Future.**

**Sowing Seeds of Empowerment**

***He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing shall come home with shouts of joy, bring his sheaves with him”* Psalm 126:6 (ESV).**

We are giving teaching tools to mothers so that they can be empowered and encouraged to use their creativity. It is more practical to help those with school-aged children—learning to sew opens up ongoing opportunities to design items in high consumer demand ( i.e. face masks are now).

Producing hats and other intricate head wear with stretchable material worn by Jewish women can also become lucrative. The vision is training for reigning! This form of vocational training to make a living can be empowering generations to come.

Please join us if you feel the pull of your heartstrings forthis critical cause!

Love looks like this practice in action!

We Need Your Help To Train and Equip Them!

***“But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold”* Mark 4:20 (ESV).**

**Marcia Brunson**

*Hope for the Future*

*Outreach Supervisor*

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**Page 14**

**STREAMS OF BLESSING** ***/ Ministry to the Destitute and Disadvantaged***

**Safeguarding and Preserving the Children**

**Throughout the history of Israel** and since their beginnings, the lives of the Jewish People have been threatened attempting to stop the Purpose of God, not only for this nation but for the restoration of all mankind. The strategy, even all through the Bible has been the same: The killing of children. During the Holocaust, the Jewish People were vulnerable to persecution and horrifically 1.5 million Jewish children were murdered or died at the hands of Nazi officials and collaborators. Jewish youngsters were targeted solely on racial grounds. Children and pregnant women had the lowest rate of survival in concentration camps and were immediately sent to the gas chambers at Auschwitz-Birkenau and other killing centers. Thousands survived only because they were hidden, with identities disguised, and often physically concealed from the outside world, constantly facing fear, dilemmas and danger.

**Today, CFI and Streams of Blessing project, together with the Jewish community here in Israel, are blessing children all over the Land. Please meet some of them and help us with your support and prayers:**

At two months of age, Roman was diagnosed with terminal failure in his heart, and given little chance to survive. A surgery at The Chaim Sheba Medical Center in Tel Aviv was a success and it was a blessing to see him discharged and dressed up with CFI donations of clothes. We now enjoy a newfound friendship with this beautiful family.

**Dvash and Emunah** are children living and growing up in the Judean Mountains. This is a wonderful experience to partner with their families who made *Aliyah* years ago and settled in the heartland of Israel. Their parents served as combat soldiers with the IDF and are back to possess the Land that God promised. They open the doors of their Farm for Christians and Jews to come and pray and study the Torah together. Another precious relationship being formed.

**Ohr Simcha** is an Israeli nonprofit organization we support which helps rescue and educate Jewish children facing abandonment or domestic abuse. CFI has destined funds for school supplies, food, clothes, medicine, infrastructure, construction and furniture. We’re making a difference in the lives of many. Thank you for the support coming from the nations as we are fighting the good battle of faith together with these little warriors to help them reach their destiny. We believe, that as they overcome the challenges and their spirits are strengthened, God will anoint them here to be a light with the finest testimonies of excellence, in His perfect timing. They will bring honor to God, not through the task they presume to accomplish, but the experience of how the same Hand of the Lord delivered, protected and empowered them for His mission.

*The covenant of this nation, also awaits these little ones of God.*

**Karen Tohon**

*Streams of Blessing*

*Outreach Supervisor*

*streams@cfijerusalem.org*

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***Bringing Comfort to Survivors /*** **FORSAKE THEM NOT**

**A Friend Loves at all Times**

***“A man who has friends must himself be friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother”* Proverbs 18:24**

Everyone desires to have friends. We want those special people, whether many or a chosen few, with whom we can laugh, cry, be silent, speak much; in essence, those with whom we can be ourselves and share our lives. We would never have imagined the privilege of calling some of the many Holocaust survivors our friends, or even more precious, that they would consider us as friends. We often get letters of thanks, kind words from our survivors, and phone calls asking for us to come visit soon. However, when we receive letters like the one below, how our hearts melt with humble gratitude and sweet love, in realizing we are truly friends of some of God’s most precious people.

Our survivor, Hanna from Lod, writes...

**Dear Christian Friends of Israel,**

*My name is Hanna. I was born in 1939 and I am a Holocaust survivor. With all of my heart I would like to thank you for your ongoing work of caring, loving and supporting people like me who survived the Holocaust.*

*In 1998 my husband, my mother and I immigrated to Israel on a ship called “Dmitry Shestokovich.” It was when I was aboard this ship that I first heard about the organization, “Christian Friends of Israel.” We were told that the people who worked for them had open and generous hearts, and would do anything they could to help us. This turned out to be absolutely true! I will never forget my first meeting with Sharon Sanders in Jerusalem, and her visit to us in Lod shortly after. Sharon came to visit my mother, who was also a Holocaust survivor! What a wonderful day it was! The visit was long, and we spoke about everything! The warmth of Sharon’s heart brought my mother back to life, strengthened her and encouraged her for life in a new land so full of giants and challenges. The highlight of that day were the Yiddish songs that Sharon sang to my precious mother!*

*In 1999 a group of the Holocaust survivors established an organization for the survivors in Lod. It was called, “Impossible to Forget.” Since the very beginning your organization showered us with attention and support. We had many precious and heartwarming meetings, both in Jerusalem and in Lod.*

*Now this work has been continued by Olga and Tanya. They help us to organize beautiful events, and always bring gifts, but most importantly they are unreserved in pouring out their love and joy. Their smiles are so contagious, that we cannot help but smile back. We even feel younger when we are with them. We so appreciate the home visits they make to those who are not able to get out any more, always bringing them gifts and much needed comfort.*

*Dear Olga and Tanya, what a lovely time we had together on our last meeting for Women’s Day! You both are such a joy to us all! Thank you so much for remembering us and creating so many unforgettable memories! I would like to thank you all for your sincere hearts and for your desire to do everything possible for people like myself in helping us to live full and happy lives here in the Land. I want to wish you all good health and fulfillment of your heart’s desires. May you always be young in your hearts and successful in everything you do.*

*With much appreciation, Hanna.*

**PS: We realize that our time with these survivors is short, thank you for joining the**

**effort with us, and with the Lord Himself – to Not Forsake His people.**

**Olga Kopilova**

***Forsake Them Not***

***Outreach Supervisor***

***ftn@cfijerusalem.org***

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**FIRST FRUITS */ Encouraging the Household of Faith***

**Arise and Shine**

**Helping the Christian Faith Community in Israel**

“And if you offer yourself to [assist] the hungry, and satisfy the need of the afflicted, then

your light will rise in darkness and your gloom will become like midday” Isaiah 58:10 - AMP.

Every Outreach project at CFI was challenged by the societal interruption created by the COVID-19 outbreak. We remain committed to our continued effectiveness within Israel’s faith community.

**The Christian Community in Israel:** With your generous financial support, believers in the household of faith are being assisted such as a single mother with a chronic lung condition with food and living expenses to help her and her family make a manageable transition into a new home. We assisted another gentleman, from a previous Soviet satellite, make ends meet while his broken arm healed so he can return to the labor force. We prayed for God to fully restore the function and mobility in his arm, while we visited. Your donations were also directed to other support organizations in the Land, serving members of our community in need. By partnering with a believing law firm, we were able to assist three families that have needed legal representation to move towards full citizenship privileges. This includes having an undivided family unit and governmental stipends specific for them to make the transition to Israel.

There is also a Haifa based ministry center which opened a men’s apartment unit for those on the path from drug and alcohol addiction, to becoming whole within their lives, by applying Biblical principles. We were able to help them obtain a washer, dryer, refrigerator, microwave and stove in order to accommodate these brave men who are determined to move into God’s intention for their destiny. We are able to encourage these and others who are our brothers and sisters in Jesus by your consistent stand with us.

**Thank you for continuing to allow us to represent God’s love to the Communities of Faith in Israel as you give of your resources to bring blessings.**

**Mr. Kim Brunson**

*First Fruits Outreach Supervisor*

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***Bringing Healing to Victims of Terror /* UNDER HIS WINGS**

**Praising God Despite the Pain**

“God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them” Hebrews 6:10

**During the Six-Day War in 1967** Israel recaptured territory that includes East Jerusalem and Judea and Samaria the ancient and heartland of Biblical Israel which the world wrongfully calls the “West bank” or “occupied territories.” Today most of the Israelis living in Judea and Samaria are religious Zionists. They believe that “Eretz Yisrael” (the Land of Israel) is given to the forefathers of Jewish people promised by God, and they have the obligation to resettle in their homeland and defend this Land in ways that comport with the Torah’s high standards of justice. Accompanied by Torah studies, their boys serve in the army and girls in national service.

The dedicated residents in the ancient Biblical heartland of Israel are Israel’s front-line defence against terrorism. They face danger and death constantly, battling brave terror attacks carried out by extreme Palestinian terrorist via bomb explosions, stabbings, firebomb attacks, shooting attacks and kidnapping — all leaving a trail of death and destruction. A terror attack occurs within minutes, but it changes life forever. Many of their lives are turned upside down, what was, is no longer, and people are left to bear the physical and emotional scars for the rest of their lives.

When I visit Israelis living in the Biblical Heartland of Israel effected by terror attacks, I am encouraged to see that these precious God-Fearing Zionists are truly living by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7)Despite the wounds of terror, the bereaved families who have lost their loved ones tell me “The Lord gives and the Lord takes away—blessed is the Name of the Lord” while still in mourning for their dead. What a great faith in God they exhibit.

**Overflowing with Thanksgiving**

A big “Thank You” will never be enough to express our gratitude to our supporters, for enabling Project UHW to reach out to these faithful and dedicated Israelis living in Judea and Samaria. God bless you **(Hebrews 6:10)** May you be encouraged by the following letter sent by one of them to Project Under His Wings who represents you to the Jewish People. **To financially support this Project please direct your financial gift to CFI designated to Project UHW ~ Outreach Project of CFI to terror victims.**

Dear Maggie,

Thank you for your kind words in these difficult times. We need to know that we are loved and that you are praying for us. I am very thankful already for your coming alongside us to comfort and help. I know that we will be okay at the end of this dark pathway. May God bless all of you for all the help and prayer that so many of us received. Blessings for your work. You are in my prayers always.

Giselle

**Maggie Huang**

*Under His Wings*

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**OPEN GATES / *Welcome Home***

**HEART OF THE HOMELAND**

“Thus declares HaShem, who gathers the dispersed of Yisrael: I will gather still more to those already gathered” (Isaiah 56:8)

**CFI’s Expanded Vision for**

Aliyah

**Get Onboard With US**!

**Welcome Onboard a Flight to the Promised Land You can be there waiting for them, in the spirit, at the airport, or in their first days in the Land, because CFI “makes it possible.”**

Because of covid restrictions in our Distribution Center CFI is taking this opportunity to enlarge our vision for those coming home to Israel. Their first days are so important. Wouldn’t you like to help a family in their first days in the Land? Essential appliance they once had have to be replaced. Many do not have the funds to purchase these items upon arrival.

You don’t have breakfast without toast (therefore they need a toaster), one doesn’t bake a cake without a mixer (therefore mixers are valuable for food preparation), a newcomer needs to wash clothes sometimes for a large family weekly or even daily (therefore washing machines are needed), food needs to be refrigerated (refrigerators are needed). Along with these appliances come irons for clothing, dryers for drying the garments as well as towels.

**GET Onboard with the Newcomers**

Christian Friends of Israel is working to ease the early days of new immigrants through our Distribution Center which remains open to the public but with fewer guests than usual because of the Corona virus regulations of “distancing.” We have also begun a new phase of *Aliyah* Assistance. It takes all of us working together, Jews and Christians, to try to meet urgent needs. Moving to a new Land during the midst of a pandemic takes courage and it is tiring and very exhausting during the summer months. Businesses have slowed down and waiting periods can sometimes be long. Making “*Aliyah”* is a holy thing for a Jewish family to do as they choose to come “home” making Israel their “safe haven” for life.

These are the sons and daughters (and children) whose parents and grandparents suffered much anti-Semitism during WW II in Europe. Israel is trying to match “family with family” to help ease the burdens and anxieties of not knowing what to do in a new nation slowed because of the virus. Whatever you can do to help us be a blessing to them at this time of life, will be greatly appreciated by our Jewish friends. Thank you for your help!

Won’t you get onboard with us and help us provide individuals, families and communities with the following “Welcome Back” necessities for rebuilding their lives in their ancient homeland?

If your gift is over $500 you may write a personal letter of blessing to the Jewish family you gave your funds to and we will read your letter to them when we make a visit to see that “all is well.” If you can give $50, it is wonderful, because we will tell them that this is given by a Christian (from your country we will name) and bless them as they take in the love from those who follow Jesus.

Welcome Home Aliyah Package Pledge

**Kitchen Tools Every Home needs: ($50-200)**

Paring knife

Hand Juicer

Skillet

Dutch Oven

Can Opener

Garbage Cans/Liners

Cleaning Supplies

Toilet Plunger

Flashlight

First Aid Kit

**Essential Newcomer Package: ($200-$300)**

Slow Cooker Pot

Blender

Toaster

Coffee Maker

Electric Mixer

Salad Spinner

Food Processor

Electric Kettle

Toaster Oven

**Key Important Appliances:**

**($500-$1000+)**

Refrigerator/Freezer

Stove

Oven

Washer

Dryer

Microwave

Electric Fan

**Will you Pray about what Amount**

**you can Give Today?**

• Help us bring a smile to Individuals.

• Assist us in bonding with Jewish Communities.

• Contribute to the Building of Families

• Aid newcomers in settling in

• Give a Helping Hand where needed

• Back the return of the Jewish people

• Advance Jewish-Christian relations

• Support *Aliyah* with prayer

• Help us represent the Lord Jesus the way we should have through the centuries but did not!

Designate your gift to “Open Gates” Aliyah packages. Be A Blessing Today!

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**OPEN GATES */ Assisting New Immigrants***

The Yellow Suitcase

**In the Bible we read many prophecies about God’s plan to bring His people back to the Land of Israel. In the distribution center we can see the faces of these precious people in daily basis. Sometimes we hear amazing stories about God’s actions in the lives of our new emigrants.**

Maria and Sergei Tolkachov came from Ukraine two months ago. They have experienced something extraordinary, and they know that God is behind that all. They shared with us “the story of the yellow suitcase.”

This beautiful family lived in Ukraine in the city of Lugansk. Maria’s father was a Jew, and all the family knew about it. They kept some traditions in their home, too, for example during the Pesach (Passover) they ate matzah (unleavened bread). The Jewish organization of charity helped Maria’s father with health problems in his last years of life. She had good contact with these Jews for many years. The same organization offered them an opportunity to study Hebrew, too.

**Only the Yellow Suitcase Survived**

Maria and Sergei didn’t really think about moving to Israel. They were working in good places. Life was fine. Then the war began in 2014. It changed everything. Lugansk was bombed, too. One explosion took place 2 meters from Tolkachov’s garage. Their car was destroyed. There were 5 suitcases on top of each other in the same garage. Everything was burned except one yellow suitcase in between the other suitcases. It was the suitcase of Maria’s father with all the documents proving their Jewry. Maria and Sergei have one son. He was the first in the family willing to make *Aliyah*. In 2015 he moved to Israel. He learned the language and now he is studying medicine in the Land. Also, Maria and Sergei were approved to emigrate in the same year, but they were not ready to leave their home, work, friends and many other familiar things behind then. The situation in their home city did not get better. The war is still reality in Lugansk. That all helped them to make the decision. Maria and Sergei moved to Israel in November 2019. At the moment they live with their son in Ramat Gan.

Mentally it wasn’t easy to emigrate, and the process of moving wasn’t without challenges either. Maria and Sergei had to pass the border between East and West Ukraine. They needed to travel by bus and then they took the train to Kiev. The family got help from different organizations during the whole process of *Aliyah*. Christian friends hosted them in Kiev before their flight to Israel. The first feel in the promised Land was not so wonderful. Everything was different: the language, mentality, climate, houses… everything! “The best thing here are the people,” Maria and Sergei say. “People that you don’t know try to help you in different ways and they are friendly.”

The plans for the future are: being together as a family, working and travelling. “We want to help our son and travel as much as possible.” Sergei says. He himself was born in a little town in Siberia. “Maybe in the future we can visit that region, too.” Maria and Sergei are amazed the willingness of Christian to help them. “God unites us.” “The good that you are doing will come back to you as a boomerang.” Maria confirms. May the Lord help us to do more good deeds for His glory!

**Tiina Danilevski**

*Open Gates Outreach Supervisor,*

*(CFI Distribution Center)* *gates@cfijerusalem.org*

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***Helping Jewish Brides Plan Weddings /* BRIDAL SALON**

**Divine Bridal Appointments**

**“Give thanks to the Lord Almighty, for the Lord is good; His Love endureth**

**forever” Jeremiah 33:11.**

**The CFI Outreach Project Bridal Salon** can be described as having divine appointment relationships with those who are taking their first steps into a covenant relationship. It is a true privilege to share in these events.

**Rachel** was born into a religious family in Israel, however, in her teenage years she started to use alcohol and drugs. She ended up living on the streets with different groups. Her life was miserable.

**A Changed Life**

On one particular evening when all seemed lost, a young man called David with similar problems, spoke words to her that changed her mind. They fell in love and one month later, David proposed to Rachel. She was not ready to get married as a normal life did not seem quite possible yet. She saw that there were still many things that needed to change for her and David. She was seeking a normal and productive life. God saw this young couple and their struggles. Family members and other people, who were praying for David began to share with him about God and His promises. Rachel, also began to know these loving friends, and little by little she started to understand a relationship with this loving God. Her life started to change.

She then began working with disabled people and started to study for the purpose of getting a better education. David pursued his passion in the field of Archeology and obtained work. With God’s help and divine appointments and through many prayers, David and Rachel adopted Godly inspired lifestyles and Rachel said yes to his proposal! As they began to plan a wedding celebration in Jerusalem, they had so hoped to have the Wedding Chuppah with the words of God’s blessings inscribed. About 100 family members and friends were invited to join the event. The Bride and Groom to-be visited our CFI Bridal Salon and found the perfect wedding suit and a gorgeous wedding gown for their special event. Both Rachel and David seemed transformed, as they donned their wedding garments. It was something special only God could do! The planned date of the wedding was March 2020. Everything was ready.

The global pandemic was becoming evident around the world and suddenly it became a reality in Israel. Then strict restrictions were announced just days before David’s and Rachel’s wedding. They had to delay all their plans to an unknown future. During those days David’s mother came to the CFI Bridal Salon to choose a beautiful evening dress for herself. She believes that one day they will celebrate the wedding with special memories. We believe with them. It will happen!

We thank you all who support the Bridal Salon Outreach opportunity as we are honored to share and impart into the lives of those whom God is transforming. May God bless Rachel and David and all their family. They are seeing and experiencing what the God of Israel can do. He promises life and a future.

**Tiina Danilevski**

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**Page 22**

**Assignment /** *in Israel*

**Beautiful** **Feet** **Ministry: Sole Food**

***“How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who***

***bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, “Your God reigns”* Isaiah 52:7.**

**Lee is CFI’s cook** (she is a real Chef) and she feeds us well. When she shops at the local marketplace (Shuk) in Jerusalem for food, her feet take her everywhere. The Bible reminds us that when we tell the Jewish people **“Your God Reigns,”** that our feet become beautiful. When we bring good news to people, that those who follow Jesus (Christians) loving the Jewish people is good news...and our feet become blessed.

It takes time to build relationships and this is what Lee is doing every week. Please keep her in your prayers as she doesn’t just shop for food but feeds others herself, with truth and the blessedness of compassion, understanding and the love of God. She has a special work assigned by God as part of her job at CFI. Meeting with Jewish, Orthodox, Christian, Palestinian and more to come, she will do well representing Jesus the way He should be represented with compassion, comfort and the healing balm of His Kindness.

**Bread for the Nations Webinar**

**Find the “Missing Link”**

**Won’t you join with Us** in getting the Word from Zion out to the world? You Can go to the Amazon, or remote places in the world that you wished you might have gone to teach God’s Word—you can do it all through a Webinar right from your home...and reach the world. People in many countries are asking CFI to teach their people about “Israel and the Church.” We have given our International Webinar Department the title of“Repairing the World” (Tikkun).

Anywhere in the world you can host a seminar with **Sharon Sanders, CFI Co-Founder-Jerusalem**. This is the bread for the nations webinar page...you can have a conversation, dialogue, conference, heart-to-heart interaction, discussions and training in the Word of God from Jerusalem today and receive the “meat of the Word” commensurate with the times in which we live. Where CFI Jerusalem has an International Representative in your Country, (please check the Jerusalem website for a list of names of countries represented) you may contact them directly.

If there is no CFI representation, contact Jerusalem cfi@cfijerusalem.org.

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**Online** *FZS’s / Read*

**These Educational Resources reveal the truth about the relationship**

**between Israel and the Church according to biblical scriptures.**

**CFI Teaching Archives Available to You!**

**“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path...” Psalm 119:105**

Please visit CFI’s new user friendly website. Navigate to For Zion Sake articles. Thy are available in pdf form for printing and distribution to churches, prayer meetings and all interested in Israel. They are being made available free-of-charge. You can distribute these freely to all Israel lovers, churches, pastors and educators.

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***Letter from New Zealand:***

*“CFI teachings... videos...will be great... the time is right as our people are becoming hungry for more teaching as they grow in the knowledge of the Word.”*

***CFI New Zealand***

Email Distributors for our magazine needed! Contact: cfi@cfijerusalem.org

Go to our website: www.cfijerusalem.org and start getting your Bible Teachings on Israel and the Church now!

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**Serve God Now and Beyond the Virus**

**I stumbled upon a little book** we obtained from Christ for the Nations Bible college in Dallas, Texas, where both Ray and I went to Bible college. The book written by Pastor Wayne Meyers once again stirred me to the point that I felt “we really do not know what it is to give and to live giving lives as **“prosperity is not measured by what we have but by what we give.”** **We either give with a spoon or with a shovel, these are God’s measures.** Brother Meyers said “money is not basically our problem. Our problem is the heart. When we love God more than we love things, then we will automatically lay all we have on the altar. How much do you want to receive from God? God determines the size of our gift in proportion to the sacrifice that accompanies it.” (from his book “Living Beyond the Possible).

I felt led of the Lord to tell of his story to Tepeapulco, Hidalgo, Mexico, as it is not only incredible, but it is true. We have lived a life of tithing, giving generously and receiving miracles beyond our wildest imaginations and hope to give of our lives to God as long as we live in order to fully surrender it all. I would like to share “Part I” with you all and perhaps it will speak to your heart the way it has mine and is spurring me on to give generously wherever and whenever I can. May you all be blessed. This is not a plea for funds or money, it is a lifestyle, a Biblical principal and a chance to read what others have done. Enjoy.

“The Christians in Tepeapulco, Hidalgo, Mexico had one of those problems that every pastor hopes for: the church had grown so much they needed a larger building. In order to avoid the red tape in getting another building permit from the government, they simply put new walls around the original church. Their plan was simple—when they put the new roof on, they would tear down the inside building.

The problem was the roof. These Christians had used all of their faith and funds to get the walls up. How could they put on the roof—the most expensive part of the building—without funds? “Brother Myers, I know that God uses you to inspire faith for finances,” the pastor wrote me. “Would you come and minister at our church?” I gladly agreed and drove the three hours from Mexico City, anticipating ministering to the people and raising the funds for the church roof. I had seen it happen all over Mexico and had no doubt that God would do it again in Tepeapulco.

**That is, until I arrived.**

I drove over to the pastor’s home before the evening service, “Brother Myers, thank you for coming,” he greeted me. “But I need to tell you that we have no money at all. We just bought musical instruments for the church orchestra, and the entire congregation has used all its resources. I’m sorry, but I don’t think there’s anything you can do for us tonight.”

I excused myself and went to the church to pray. “Lord, I drove three hours to help these people,” I began my complaint. “Have I wasted my time?” I was disgusted and discouraged and obviously in no frame of mind to preach a message on faith. May own had hit bottom. “Lord, is what this pastor said true? Is there no reason for me to be here tonight?”

“On the one hand, he told you the unadulterated truth,” I heard God speaking into my spirit. “There are no finances. But on the other hand, he didn’t tell you all the truth. At their present level of faith, there are no funds. That’s why I sent you, son. Build their faith in My Word and My Word will lift their faith to another level. At that level there will be funds to roof this building.” (Watch for Part 2 in the next issue of For Zion Sake).

Israel is in dire straits. Its economy is at the lowest state for as long as anyone can remember and so are many nation’s economies around the world. This might pertain to you and your country. **However, watch for Part 2 which will take us further into Brother Meyer’s true story of what God did for those who put their trust in Him. Shalom from Jerusalem, and God bless the givers.**

**Sharon Sanders**

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OUR MISSION

STATEMENT

We believe that Jesus is the Jewish Messiah and Savior of the world; however, our stand alongside of Israel is not conditional.

**Who Are We?**

Christian Friends of Israel is a pioneer ministry birthed in December,1985 in Jerusalem. We have two arms:

**(1) to Israel, and (2) to the worldwide Church**

We are a relationship building ministry who has been repairing damage done by Christians to Jewish people for over 2000 years. The ministry is known for its personal touch in making home visits to Israelis in our outreach programs and to create long lasting bonds of genuine friendship together.

**Our Outreach Programs Include:**

lAiding the poor and disadvantaged

lEmergency Disaster Aid

lSurvivors of the Holocaust

lAssisting Terror attack victims and families

lIDF Soldiers and Lone Soldiers

lThe Household of Faith in the Land

lA unique Bridal Salon

l*Aliyah* Distribution Center for new immigrants

lEthiopian immigrants/community needs

lCommunity development to Israeli families

**In as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren,**ye have done It unto me.

**An Invitation to Visit Us!**

**CFI Ministry Headquarters**

**Jaffa Road Entrance to Jerusalem**

Jerusalem Bus, Light Rail and

High Speed Train Depots

(Serves Egged, Superbus, Dan,

City buses, Light Rail and High Speed Trains)

Use Main Entrance to Jerusalem

Bus Station Terminal Bldg.

Elevator to 6th Floor

 **CFI Tele:** (**02) 623-3778**

Arrange your visit today by emailing:

**events@cfijerusalem.org**

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**Thank you- (i.e. Christian Friends of Israel,** [**www.cfijerusalem.org**](http://www.cfijerusalem.org)**)**.

**Page 26-27**

**Welcome to CFI Family of Nations**

“Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your radiance...all assemble

and come to you: your sons come from afar...” Isaiah 60:3-4

**CFI–UK**

**Events Defending Israel**

**CFI UK** had to postpone several planned speaking engagements (or present online) including the CFI UK annual conference and exhibitions at Christian festivals, due to the Covid-19 plague. Yet we have still been very active producing our ‘In Touch’ magazine, all our online work, and CFI Jerusalem’s *‘For Zion Sake’* magazine version.

Before the corona virus lockdown, the UK and Northern Office, sponsored several Holocaust Memorial events throughout the UK; an exhibit at Christian Resources Event (CRE) in the Midlands; attended Lobby Day at Westminster; a Conference organized by the CFI Regional Link, Dave Walker in Birmingham. A special event in Hove, Brighton, entitled ‘Let’s Celebrate Israel’’ was also a great success as Christian and Jewish communities in the South East of England joined together at Ralli Hall, Hove. CFI UK’s CEO, Jacob Vince and Lucy Synenko from the Eastbourne office planned this unique event with Margaret Dunman and her husband Mark over several months.

All that hard work was blessed as more than 100 Christians and Jews came together to celebrate the uniqueness of Israel. Special guests were Jonathan Farrell of Stand With Us UK and Shadi Khalloul of the Israel Christian Aramaic Association who travelled from Israel. There was an excellent Kosher style supper of falafels and sweet treats, as well as a silent auction. There was also an interview by Yael Breuer from Sussex Jewish News with CEO Jacob Vince. Helpfully for all our Jewish guests, they covered the reasons Christians express friendship with the Jewish people and a personal perspective on the way the Lord led Jacob to have such an understanding of matters relating to Israel. Many CFI staff attended, and it was great to hear such positive comments from the Jewish community, many not aware of the full extend of support of Christian Friends of Israel.

***Jacob Vince, CFI UK CEO***

***Email: info@cfi.org.uk***

**CFI–Germany**

**Gaining New Friends**

**We are very happy** to be able to work as representatives of CFI in Germany. Our German branch is called “Christliche Freunde Israels” (abbreviated: CFRI) and we are proud to belong to the CFI family.

Throughout the Corona time we have seen an increase in the donations – people are giving selflessly to the needy. We see their love for the work of the ministry of CFI and the people of Israel in the substantial funds they have entrusted us with. With the help of an ongoing facebook campaign we are steadily gaining friends, soon to reach the 10.000 mark (we are at 9.500 friends now). People are responding to our posts, which are usually CFI-Jerusalem articles and letters translated into German. Most of our work is done from our office at the moment, so having a presence in social media is a real blessing to a lot of our readers. We get wonderful responses from our readers concerning the teaching articles and the great job the CFI staff is doing in serving the Jewish people.

In addition to our readers who receive our brochures by mail or online, we have about 25 people throughout Germany who have partnered with us in distributing our printed information (FZS / WPL / IND) in their respective areas. All in all, CFI is known here for our down to earth, steady and reliable work in Israel and people are very happy to be involved through prayer and donations. CFI might not be on the big platforms, but we are where we are needed most: right in the heart of the matter – face to face relationships with the people of Israel, loving them, supporting them and comforting them.

CFI Germany is also involved in a network of ministries for Israel called CFFI (Christian Forum for Israel). Amber is on the board of directors and can actively participate in the planning of events hosted by the network. It’s a wonderful opportunity to work together with other ministries as the body of Christ, while bringing the issue of Israel into awareness among the church and society, as well as into political circles.

***Contact: Amber Sutter***

***Email: info@cfri.de***

**CFI–New Zealand**

**Welcome Back to New Zealand!**

**Dennis and Penny** were called by the Lord in 1992 and served three years, first in Bethlehem, as House Parents for Special Needs Children in the House of Hope. After this, they joined Christian Friends of Israel and started work at the Distribution Center at the time of the massive influx of *Aliyah* from the former Soviet Union (FSU). Dennis took the role of Distribution Center Manager, with Penny directing the Open Gates Welcome Center.

On returning to New Zealand, they became the New Zealand Representatives and served the ministry for a total of twenty years. At one point Dennis retired; however, CFI Jerusalem has recently sent the call out to return as National Representative in New Zealand. Dennis and Penny accepted the position once again. A wonderful new Committee has joined hands together with much enthusiasm under the direction of the McLeod’s. We welcome them back and send the call out to our New Zealand Christian Friends of Israel.

We are waiting for many to join Jerusalem’s CFI Family of Nations around the world. When the Roll Call of Nations is administrated at the Lord returns to Jerusalem, and the sheep and the goat nations are judged, we will cheer you on when the McLeod’s step up and say “New Zealand is here, Master. We have loved your People and Nation!”

***Contact: Dennis and Penny McLeod***

***Email:*** ***dpmcleod2@cloud.com***

**On becoming a CFI Representative in your nation contact:** **internationalreps@cfijerusalem.org**

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**A Song from the Nations**

CFI–Japan

**Japanese Christians Stand with Israel**

CFI Jerusalem welcomes Mrs. Esther Kioyse as our “Voice from Japan.”

**Contact:** Pastor Kiyose Yoshie, (03) 5823-4588, 12-7, 2 Chomei, Kojima

Taiyoku, TOKYO, 112-0056, JAPAN. Welcome to our Japanese Brothers

and sisters who love Israel! ***Email:*** ***yoshiekiyose2008@gmail.com***

CFI–India

**CFI Representative Ephrain Smith from India**

**Ephraim Smith our representative is from India** and has a number of degrees in Theology from accredited institutions. His many visits to Israel and in-depth topical knowledge about Israel, has earned him receiving many speaking invitations. Among the invitations is one of the oldest Seminaries (Baptist Theological Seminary-Kakinad) which has invited him to teach to students for the past three years. CFI has been introduced to many numbers of pastors in and around Andhra Pradesh State. We thank you for praying for CFI India and that we will soon have WhatsApp available for many Pastors to learn more about Israel’s role in the Coming Kingdom of God on earth.

***Contact: Dr. Ephriam Smith Email: zion\_india@yahoo.com***

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