

The JOSHUA FUND NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2010

VOLUME 9

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The Time is Short
The Blessings are Eternal
Will you join us?*



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Calling Pastors and Lay People to the 2011 Epicenter Conference and Tour in Israel

By Joel C. Rosenberg

The world is turning away from Israel. But as followers of Jesus Christ, it is time for us to stand with God's chosen people *together*. Let's pray for the peace of Jerusalem *together*. Let's study the Word of God together. Let's worship the King of kings *together*. Will you join us?

In May 2011, The Joshua Fund will host an Epicenter Conference in Jerusalem for two days, and lead a "Prayer & Vision Trip" to Israel. The conference theme comes from the Old Testament Book of Joel, chapter 2: "Blow a trumpet in Zion ... Return to Me with all your heart ... Consecrate a fast, proclaim a solemn assembly, gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders ... Then the Lord will be zealous for His land and will have pity on His people."

Joining me in speaking will be renowned Bible teachers, including Pastor Skip Heitzig of Calvary Chapel Albuquerque; Pastor Ray Bentley of Maranatha Chapel in San Diego; Anne Graham Lotz, daughter of Billy Graham; Kay Arthur, founder of Precept Ministries, and Dr. T.E. Koshy, The Joshua Fund's pastoral advisor and one of three senior elders of a movement of 6,000 evangelical Christian churches in India, Europe and Asia.

The Joshua Fund tour will be like no other. You will visit our warehouse and participate in a hands-on special outreach to bless the poor and needy. You will meet with and pray for local pastors and ministry leaders on the frontlines of the faith. I will teach at key locations and answer your questions.

Pastors, we would love for you to join us on our tour. Or, if you'd prefer, you can lead your own tour and bring your people to the Epicenter Conference. Our tour agency, Inspiration Cruises & Travel, has ready-made 7-day, 12-day, and 14-day tours you can choose from. They will answer all your questions, provide you with brochures and marketing assistance, and handle all the logistics.

Now is the time. Israel needs Christian friends. Please join us for the trip of a lifetime.

For detailed information, and to register for the conference and tour, please visit www.epicenterconference.com.



Travelers on The Joshua Fund's Israel tour in November 2009 listen to Joel Rosenberg speak in the ruins of the temple courts at Capernaum, Jesus' home town.

COME HELP
US BLESS

Israel and her neighbors.



The Joshua Fund Staff Visits the Warehouse

Partners and allies gather to share God's work

By Dave Olsson

Can The Joshua Fund double the number of food distribution centers we open and support in 2011? Can we dramatically expand the number of Jews and Arabs we are caring for? And can we improve the quality of our service, and increase warehouse efficiency?

In August, I had the opportunity to travel with two of my colleagues to Israel to visit The Joshua Fund warehouse, see operations on the ground, and consider such questions. The last time I had been to the warehouse was in November 2009 when TJF had first rented the facility and we had prayed and dedicated the building. It was completely empty then, and we had no staff to run it. Not anymore.

Today, by God's grace, the place is brimming with huge pallets of flour, beans, corn, pickles, tuna, cooking oil, paper towels, diapers, and other supplies. The Lord has provided a delivery truck, fork lift, and fully outfitted offices. And, of course, we have already expanded operations from supplying one food distribution center we call a "storefront" every month to supplying seven such storefronts. Along with Lance Emma (our Chief Operating Officer), and John Moser (our Director of Humanitarian Relief), we visited with our full time warehouse manager and his new part-time assistant. We evaluated warehouse operations, spent time planning for 2011, and visited two storefronts to see how things were going firsthand.

One of the things that really struck me while I was there was how the logistics of delivering food, cooking supplies, and other goods involves a complex combination of organizing orders, product weight, truck capacity, and, in some cases, navigating narrow streets. Once delivered to the storefronts, volunteers sort and bag the products. Bags of food are then either delivered directly to recipients in their apartments, or those who receive the food will come to the storefront to pick up the bagged food. The critical need is to continue making the process as personal and dignified as possible




John Moser, Dave Olsson, and Lance Emma inside The Joshua Fund's warehouse in Israel. Below: John Moser speaks to the storefront managers during a meeting at the warehouse.



so that the needy Israelis we serve truly feel cared for and honored. This is our heart.

During our trip, we also gathered storefront managers and volunteers together for several hours to introduce them to each other and give them an opportunity to share what the Lord has been doing through food distribution. Many of them expressed how deeply appreciative they are of the relationships The Joshua Fund is forging with Jews and Christians in the Land.

They also shared incredible stories of how people receiving aid are so desperate that sometimes they push to get in the door of the storefront; that we are reaching prostitutes, members of the military (IDF), Holocaust survivors, and Sudanese and Ethiopian immigrants with aid; how some of the storefront staff and volunteers have been targets of violence and persecution; and how some of the volunteers themselves were once on the streets and desperate for help, but after experiencing the grace of God, they now serve others in the same condition.

I was greatly encouraged after meeting these joyful, courageous, and dedicated men and women. It wouldn't be possible without your prayers and donations, so thank you so much. Please keep praying for us as we seek to expand our capacity and improve our service. 



Ambulances Purchased by The Joshua Fund Saving Lives in Israel

By Joel C. Rosenberg

At the end of 2009, with your financial help and faithful prayers, The Joshua Fund provided a significant grant to Magen David Adom (MDA), Israel's national emergency medical service, to purchase two brand new ambulances. Both were built, outfitted with state-of-the-art equipment, and delivered to an MDA station in Jerusalem in May 2010.

MDA, the Israeli version of the American Red Cross, immediately put "Jerusalem 43" and "Jerusalem 62" into service. In fact, the two ambulances responded to more than 1,400 work-related emergencies, violent crimes, fires, childbirths, routine traffic accidents, and other traumas in just the first two months of operation.

In August, several of our staff, with my wife and kids, had the chance to participate in a ceremony in Jerusalem formally dedicating the two ambulances. It was great to see them for ourselves, climb inside them, learn how they work, and see the inscriptions on the front doors of both vehicles, which read: "Presented to the people of Israel by The Joshua Fund and evangelical Christians in the U.S. and around the world, 2010".

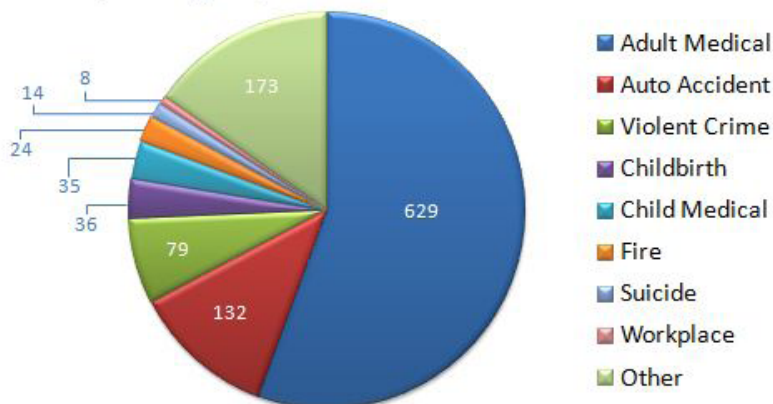
Even better was to meet the paramedics that use the two ambulances every day. It was fascinating to hear their stories about delivering babies in these ambulances and responding to all kinds of emergencies. The best part for me was the opportunity to pray for these men at the end of our visit. As I told them, "We know the followers of Iranian President Ahmadinejad and Hezbollah leader Sheikh Nasrallah hate you and want to kill you. But we want you to know that the followers of Jesus Christ love you and want to bless you." They were very grateful and touched that evangelical Christians would help them accomplish their life-saving mission. Please continue to keep them and their colleagues in your prayers.



Members of The Joshua Fund staff, including John Moser, Lance Emma, Joel Rosenberg, and TJF co-founder Lynn Rosenberg, visit with members of Magen David Adom during the dedication of the "Jerusalem 43" and "Jerusalem 62" ambulances.

Jerusalem "43" & "62" Responses by Incident

May 24 – August 5, 2010



Statistics provided by MDA Jerusalem Region. Combined "Jerusalem 43" and "Jerusalem 62" activity reports, May 24 – August 5, 2010.

Welcome to Back To Jerusalem Conference

Thousands of Arabic Bibles, Gospel Films Distributed During “Back to Jerusalem” Conference

By Chung and Farah Woo, and Carolyn Lugbill

In July, for the third year in a row, The Joshua Fund helped sponsor “Back to Jerusalem,” a conference and outreach designed by Arab-Israeli Christians to help their fellow Arab believers learn how to share their faith. What a joy it was to go and be part of bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ back to where it all began.

More than 300 believers participated in outreaches to Arab communities in Jerusalem, various other parts of Israel, and the West Bank. Carolyn and her 14-year-old son had the opportunity to serve on a team in Jerusalem with three other Americans and four South Africans. Chung and Farah, both medical doctors, participated in medical outreaches, taking their two sons to help in all kinds of ways, including prayer.

We distributed packets of material that included copies of the Jesus film on DVD, the New Testament in Arabic, an evangelistic novel in Arabic called “The Witness” written by Josh McDowell, and a youth sports booklet, also in Arabic. Some Muslims were reluctant to take the packets. Others were very eager. One taxi driver even made a U-turn in a busy street to collect a packet.

We visited a local park and did face painting, blew up balloons, and sang songs to draw a crowd. What a joy to see these children


“This trip allowed me to see a completely different side of Israel by viewing it through an Arab-Israeli’s perspective. I am now better equipped to pray for the peace of Jerusalem and for the reconciliation of both Jews and Arabs.”

—Carolyn Lugbill

having fun while their moms had conversations about the Lord with local Arabic speaking believers.

The medical clinics we helped with were for needy Arabs in Bethlehem, Tel Aviv, and Ramallah. In Bethlehem, we saw about 60 patients. The Tel Aviv team gave packages of food and clothing during their clinic. Two Arab-Israeli doctors and a pharmacist joined us as well. In Ramallah, we saw 30 patients

total. We had the chance to pray with many of the patients and give them Arabic Bibles and other Christian materials.

All told, the local Arab believers and the international participants distributed some 23,000 gospel packets, sowing many seeds. Please pray that a great harvest be reaped for our Lord Jesus Christ and that the Arab believers will develop a greater passion for sharing their faith and making disciples. 

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As a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) we follow high standards of Christian ethics in fund-raising, financial accounting and reporting.



DESIGNATED GIVING

All contributions are tax deductible in the USA. If The Joshua Fund is successful in raising our financial goal for a specific project for which you have designated your donations, all excess funds for that project will be applied to related projects or to the general fund of TJE.

NOTE TO OUR DONORS

This newsletter, as well as the design, have been provided free of charge to The Joshua Fund by Harvest Graphics. This has greatly helped us to maintain our commitment of keeping our overhead to a minimum. It has been an encouragement for us to work with other believers who have a heart for Israel and her neighbors and have entrusted their time, talents and treasures into His service.