



President's Prayer Letter



CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

241 East 51st Street • New York, New York 10022 • www.chosenpeople.com

To the Jew First (Romans 1:16)

January 2008

Dear friend,

Shalom from New York City. I just returned from Israel, where I spent a week encouraging our team of more than two dozen workers who are serving the Lord in the Holy Land!

I am amazed by what God is doing in Israel. The number of believers in Jesus the Messiah has increased approximately threefold in the last decade! Seeing the Lord's marvelous work there makes me believe that what Paul wrote about in Romans 11:25-26 might very well be just around the corner!

Knowing what God is doing in Israel and in many other areas where your Mission is serving the Lord makes me hopeful and excited about the opportunities to reach Jewish people with the Gospel in 2008!

"To the Jew first and also to the Gentile," taken from the Apostle Paul's words in Romans 1:16, have been the rallying cry of Chosen People Ministries throughout our 114-year history. This is a great Scripture to remember at the start of the New Year!

Last year was a fruitful season of evangelism, and I am hoping you will pray with our worldwide staff and me as we look forward to God continuing this harvest in 2008.

Let me give you a glimpse of what the Lord has done through our staff in the past year!

Michael Z. and "Dovid"

Michael Z., who directs our Israel work, has had some extraordinary opportunities to reach Jewish people for Jesus. I will let Michael tell you

Knowing what
God is doing in
Israel and in
many other
areas where
your Mission is
serving the Lord
makes me
hopeful and
excited about
ways we can
reach Jewish
people with the
Gospel in 2008!

Our staff in Israel met Dovid through one of the free tours we sponsor and lead of the holy biblical sites. This is just one of many creative ways we have of meeting people. Seekers won't simply show up on our doorstep, so we must constantly do all we can to meet Israelis who are seeking the Lord.



about one of these blessed encounters in his own words.

"I want to mention one fellow—we'll call him Dovid—to give you a good sense of the kind of work we do. Dovid came from Russia. He was single, well-educated and struggling to become established. We met him through one of the free outreach tours we lead of biblical sites. This is just one of many creative ways we have of meeting people. Seekers won't simply show up on our

doorstep, so we must constantly do all we can to meet Israelis who are seeking the Lord.

"At the end of each tour, we always offer an invitation to visit our congregation. Dovid began attending, although very irregularly, sitting in the last pew. Yet the Spirit of God worked in him and finally after a service one day he said, 'I want to become a follower of Messiah. What do I have to do?'

"I disciplined Dovid. He became part of our Tel Aviv congregation and grew rapidly as a believer. Dovid married another member of the congregation and they have two children and are expecting a third. He now serves as an elder in the congregation."

There are many more like Dovid being reached through your Chosen People missionaries in the Land of Israel. They are coming to faith through the congregations we have planted and nurtured, and also through more direct forms of evangelism.

In addition, our staff has been able to show Israelis the love of Jesus in practical ways, and this has led to their hearts becoming open to the Lord. I will tell you more in the days ahead about our ministries among unwed mothers in Netanya, drug addicts and prostitutes in Tel Aviv, and others among the less fortunate members of Israeli society.

Michael Cohen and "Martha"

Half a world away from Israel, Michael Cohen ministers in Southern California, home to one of the largest Jewish communities in America. Here is a wonderful story that Michael tells about what God is doing through his exciting ministry:

"I received a call from 'Janet'—a Christian woman who had been witnessing for many years to her Jewish friend 'Martha' and praying for her to accept the Jewish Messiah, Jesus. Although not interested in Jesus, Martha loved the friendship.

"Sadly, Martha became ill with breast cancer at a young age. Although she recovered from this first threat to her life, she later needed dialysis and continued to struggle with various other cancers and illnesses. When Janet called me, she was frantic because she thought Martha was close to death. But she also believed that Martha was more open to

hearing the Gospel. Like many Jewish people, Martha needed to meet a Jewish person who was able to relate his faith in Jesus in a Jewish context. That's when I entered the picture.

"When I met Martha at a care facility in Tarzana, California, I saw that she was very kind, sweet and soft-spoken. After a brief 'getting to know you' conversation, I learned that Martha was terrified of dying.

"Martha had developed many types of anxieties and carried undue burdens as a result. I took her through several Bible studies from Philippians 4:6-7 and Matthew 6:24-33 and shared with her that the Jewish Messiah, Jesus, wanted to give her rest for her soul and take away her fears (Matthew 11:28-30). She seemed visibly pleased, and wanted to learn more. I continued meeting with Martha about once per week.

"I asked Martha if she would like to hear how I came to faith in Jesus. After listening intently to my testimony, she asked me questions about my Jewish upbringing. I also explained the Gospel to her from the Hebrew Scriptures, wanting Martha to understand that the Messiah of her Jewish Bible was Yeshua of Nazareth. The Holy Spirit had prepared her for this message.

"When I later asked her if she wanted to receive Yeshua as her Messiah, she answered, 'Yes,' and we prayed the Sinner's Prayer together."

"Immediately, the fear of death, which had plagued her since childhood, subsided! Though she still had a strong desire to fight her cancer, she had peace and assurance. Soon thereafter, Martha went to be with her Lord. I miss her, think of her often, and look forward to the day when I will see her again!"

It is rewarding beyond words to see Jewish people come to the awareness that the Gospel is for them. As with Martha, the Gospel not only changes people's lives, but also changes where they will spend eternity!

Dear friend, if anything keeps me going from day to day, it is knowing that we have the words of eternal life to offer to both Jews and Gentiles!

Dovid and Martha are wonderful examples of Jewish people around the world who are coming to faith in Jesus.

But there are many others who need the Gospel.

Would you allow Romans 1:16 to impact and change your prayer life?

Would you consider making a commitment to pray at the start of every



Michael asked Martha if she would like to hear how he came to faith in Jesus. He also explained the Gospel to her from the Hebrew Scriptures, wanting Martha to understand that the Messiah of her Jewish Bible was Yeshua of Nazareth. The Holy Spirit had prepared her for this message.

Your “To the Jew First” gift in January will help us provide for our staff and meet our prayed for and carefully prepared budgets in 2008. I would love to send you a free first-edition copy of our new book, *To the Jew First*, for your gift of \$250 or more!



day in 2008 for the salvation of the Jewish people in Israel and around the world?

I am thrilled that Chosen People Ministries missionaries are being used by God to reach His chosen people for Jesus, and my heart continually cries out with the Apostle Paul, “Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they may be saved” (Romans 10:1).

We are living in the Last Days and in a time of unprecedented opportunities to reach Jewish people for Jesus—and we must reach God’s chosen people now!

Our dedicated staff members are doing all they can! And I know how grateful they are for your faithful prayers, love and generous financial support. You are a key part of the team.

Would you also consider starting the New Year with a generous gift to the Lord’s work for Jewish outreach?

Our staff in Israel, South America, Russia and even in the United States, where we serve in some of the most expensive cities of our nation, need your help to stay on the field and make the most of these new and wonderful opportunities to preach the Gospel. Israel and Russia are hostile to the Gospel, and our workers in these places especially need our prayers and support.

This is why we have established our **Under-Supported Missionary Fund**—to help workers who are unable to raise their support.

Your “To the Jew First” gift in January will help us provide for our staff and meet our 2008 budgets, which we have prayed for and carefully prepared.

I would like to provide \$100,000 of “special” support to our staff this year. A gift of \$50, \$100 or more would go a long way right now.

Thank you for praying and for considering the blessing it would bring to Chosen People Ministries workers if you begin the New Year by sending a gift—whatever the Lord leads—to reach Jewish people for Jesus. It is a joy to partner with you as we bring the Good News to God’s chosen people!

Your brother in the Messiah,

Mitch
Mitch Glaser



Dr. Mitch Glaser
President

P.S. Our new 400-page book, *To the Jew First*, has now been published by Kregel Press. I would love to send you a free first-edition copy for your gift of \$250 or more!