

# The Chosen People



Volume XVI, Issue 3 April 2010

# JEWISH MINISTRY IN BOSTON

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ISSUE:**

New Life for Jewish Evangelism in Boston • Approaching the Living God • The King Gives Messianic Marital Advice





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# New Life for Jewish Evangelism in Boston

Dear friend,

Shalom in the risen Messiah! As our hearts are still overflowing with joy knowing that Jesus rose from the dead, I want to tell you about another resurrection that is very exciting to me!

Chosen People Ministries' work in the very Jewish and profoundly strategic city of Boston has reopened!

## **A Vision Born in Prayer**

Our ministry had a long history in Boston, but the work closed in the early 1990s as the staff serving there moved on to vital ministries in other places. The Chosen People Ministries leadership at the time did not have missionaries to replace them, and so the branch in Boston was reluctantly closed.

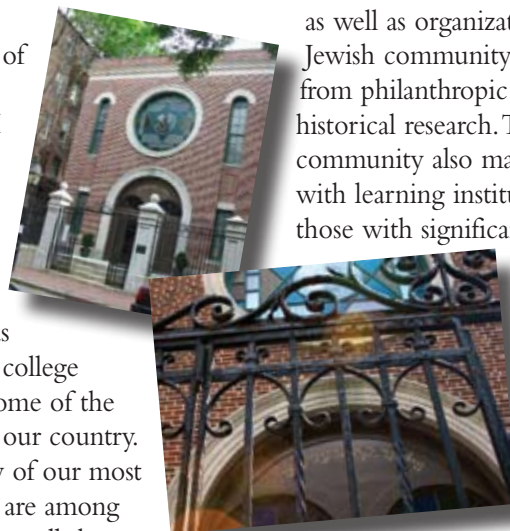
When I was appointed president of Chosen People Ministries in 1997, I knew that one day we needed to reopen our Boston branch. Boston has a large Jewish population, as well as thousands of Jewish college students attending some of the finest universities in our country. We know that many of our most gifted future leaders are among them, and we want to tell these young people about Jesus.

Today, Boston's Jewish community numbers over 200,000. The city has synagogues of every branch of Judaism

as well as organizations serving the Jewish community in ways ranging from philanthropic work to Jewish historical research. The Jewish community also maintains strong links with learning institutions, particularly those with significant Jewish student bodies (see the chart on page 5).

Reaching the Boston Jewish community for Jesus is a **MUST!**

In 2001, I scheduled a leadership meeting in Boston. The meeting went well, but the most memorable and dramatic moment of those few days was when we went to Harvard Square in the





middle of Cambridge on a rainy, wintery day. We prayed as we walked through Harvard Square, asking the Lord to resurrect Chosen People Ministries' work in this great city.

We have continued to pray over the last decade that the Lord would enable us to reopen our work in Boston, and I am delighted to tell you that He has answered our prayers—and in a way that is personally meaningful to me.

I want to introduce you to two friends I have known for over twenty years—Mitch and Kina Forman, who have answered the Lord's call to serve the Jewish community in Boston.

### **Mitch and Kina Forman: Servants of Messiah**

I remember the first day I met Mitch, when he walked into my office in San Francisco—at that time I was serving with our sister ministry, Jews for Jesus. He was wearing an earring or two and sporting a short ponytail. I assumed that Mitch was a Jewish seeker, as his appearance was typical of the young men I often witnessed to in San Francisco during the mid-to-late 1980s. But I soon discovered that Mitch was different.

I immediately realized that he was a brand new Jewish believer in Jesus. He began sharing his testimony—a fascinating story of God's power and grace. He was brought up in Boston in a traditional Jewish home and went to college to study restaurant management. After graduating, he held jobs in various hotels in the Boston area that were known for their excellent cuisine.

After a few years, he left Boston and traveled to San Francisco, where he began working with a chef who is considered "the father of California cuisine." However, though Mitch learned how to create great food, he lost his focus and his mentor took notice. For that reason and several others, Mitch began drinking heavily and eventually was fired.

He explained to me that this experience brought him to a low point

in his life. He was able to get a job at a restaurant in Carmel, California, but his life continued to go downhill. Eventually he met a young woman who was a backslidden Korean Christian, but one of the reasons he was attracted to her was because of her faith. Mitch became increasingly interested in the Gospel; he visited a local Baptist church and received Messiah.

Almost immediately, he stopped drinking and his life was transformed by the power of the Gospel. Yet, like so many other Jewish people who believe in Jesus, Mitch thought he was the only Jewish person in the world to believe that Jesus was the Messiah. Someone in his church told him about our ministry of sharing the message of Jesus with Jewish people, so he came to visit me in San Francisco.

I could see Mitch's spiritual hunger, and decided at that moment that I would disciple him. Mitch eventually moved up to San Francisco to open another restaurant. During the ensuing summers, I encouraged him to accompany me as part of a short-term ministry team working in New York City, where he served as the resident chef for our ministry team. As time went by, it was clear that God was calling Mitch into full-time ministry.

After some years in Jewish ministry, Mitch returned to Boston to work with his brothers in their family business. Six years later, he was finally able to re-enter full-time ministry with Chosen People Ministries in his beloved Boston.

May I also add a word about Mitch's wife Kina (pronounced "Keena"), whose testimony we've included in this issue as well? Kina is also a Jewish believer and a vital part of the Forman ministry team. She attended Washington Bible College in Lanham, Maryland and finished her Bachelor's degree in



*Mitch and Kina Forman with their two daughters*

Missions at Nyack College in New York. A month after graduating, she married Mitch, the love of her life, and served in Jewish ministry by his side for the next ten years. Mitch and Kina now have two daughters.

After all these years, I am thrilled that the Formans have re-entered full-time Jewish ministry with Chosen People Ministries. Mitch will also serve as the Vice President of U.S. Ministries, and Kina, who is expecting another child, will serve as a Church Ministries Coordinator from her home.

### **Establishing a Center in Boston**

Mitch's mature leadership has already borne wonderful fruit for the Kingdom in the Boston area. He writes:

*About four years ago, I became involved in the leadership of a Russian Jewish Messianic congregation in Newton, which is a suburb of Boston. We have thirty to forty people attending our regular services, and during this time, ten or twelve people have received the Lord. We've baptized almost all of them, which is a huge step for them to take in public.*

Chosen People Ministries plans to establish a Messianic Center in the Boston area, close to the congregation and near enough to the university district to have a ministry among students. We envision a Center for

# JEWISH MINISTRY IN BOSTON

evangelistic outreach and discipleship—a comfortable place for students to bring their friends, with a variety of activities designed to help young Jewish believers grow in their faith. We are looking for space at this very moment, so please pray for God to guide us!

I hope that you also consider sending a gift to help us establish this new work in Boston. I do not usually ask for funds in our newsletter, but *I want Mitch and Kina to have the resources they will need to get this work going.* It is not easy to resurrect the dead, but we do know Someone who has experience!

Your brother,



Mitch



Dr. Mitch Glaser  
President

P.S. We are also happy to have our very own professional chef on staff—below you can enjoy one of his favorite Jewish recipes!

## Approaching the Living God



Kina Forman was born and raised in a Messianic home in the suburbs of Washington, D.C. Both

her Jewish father and her Gentile mother are deaf. Her father was raised in an Orthodox Jewish home and received Messiah after meeting her mother in 1970. However, growing up, Kina attended neither synagogue nor church, as there were very few places of worship for deaf people.

As she reached adolescence, Kina began to search spiritually. One afternoon, she noticed an old, beat-up station wagon with a sign in the back window citing Scripture. Curious, she inquired about it and the driver of the station wagon invited her to a local youth group meeting that evening.

At the meeting, she noted that the young people in the youth group were different from the average high school student; they had a purpose and drive that she envied. Kina was invited to return for another gathering at the youth pastor's house the following Friday evening. She joined the group while they sang praise songs to God. While surveying the room, she saw young people worshipping God as though He were real. Kina asked God at that moment, "Are you who they say you are? If you are, would you show yourself to me right now?"

Then, she says, "The moment I prayed, the youth pastor said to the group, 'There is someone here searching for the Lord! The Lord has heard you!'" Shocked that God had heard her prayer, she approached the pastor—but she wasn't approaching the pastor as much as she was approaching the living God! She asked Jesus to be her Savior—her Messiah—and was born again. 🌈



## Mitch's Nana's Sweet & Sour Cabbage Soup

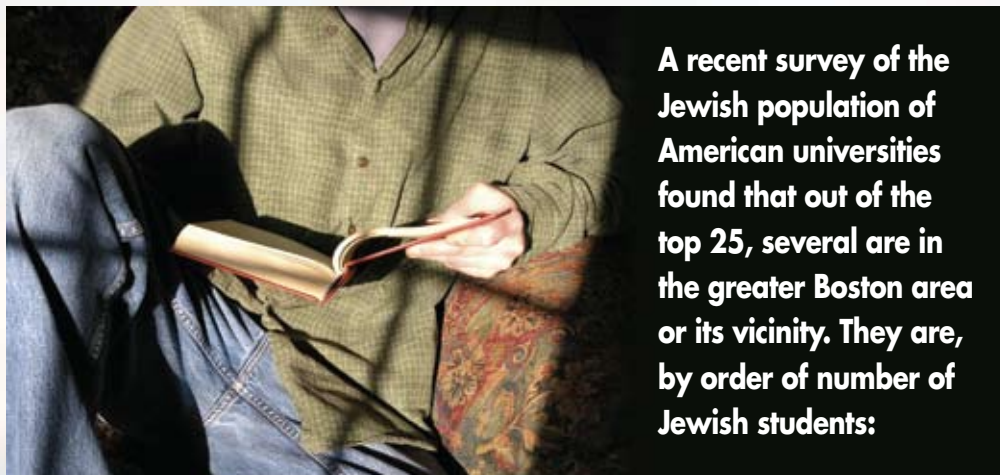
### Ingredients

One head of green cabbage	2 (16 oz.) cans tomato sauce
2 medium yellow onions	1 Tbsp. garlic
4 medium carrots	1 Tbsp. sugar
64 oz. chicken stock	2 oz. red wine vinegar
16 oz. beef stock	Salt to taste
2 (16 oz.) cans diced tomatoes	Pepper to taste
	1 <i>challah</i> (braided egg bread)

### Directions

Place chicken and beef stock in a medium stock pot and bring to a boil. Then slice the onions, carrots and cabbage and place them in the stock pot too. Cook on medium heat for 30 minutes. After this, add the garlic, chopped tomatoes and tomato sauce. Cook for another 30 minutes on medium heat, at a slight boil. Add sugar, vinegar, salt and pepper to taste, and simmer for one more hour. Serve in bowls with sliced bread or *challah*, and enjoy! 🌈





A recent survey of the Jewish population of American universities found that out of the top 25, several are in the greater Boston area or its vicinity. They are, by order of number of Jewish students:



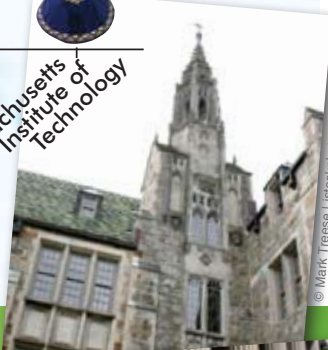
## MISSION PRAYER POINTS

*Here are some highlights from Chosen People Ministries' global outreach. Please pray that the Lord will build upon what He has already established!*

### JEWISH STUDENTS IN THE GREATER BOSTON AREA



Source consulted: Reform Judaism Online Fall 2007; reformjudaismmag.org



- Pray for Mitch and Kina Forman as they revive Chosen People Ministries' outreach in Boston's Jewish community. 🕎
- Pray that Mitch and Kina find suitable space for a Messianic Center in the Boston area. 🕎
- Pray for the Lord to raise up prayer partners specifically for the new work in Boston. 🕎
- Pray for Vladimir Pikman and his family in Germany as he directs Chosen People Ministries' expanding work there. 🕎
- Pray that the seeds that were planted in our short-term mission trips to India and New Zealand will bear fruit for Messiah. 🕎
- Pray that the Lord will bless our work through the Messianic Centers we have established and are in the process of establishing in Israel, Germany, Canada, England, Los Angeles, South Florida, and other places with Jewish communities. 🕎



I guess like most of us, the memories of going to our grandmother's home are filled with the delicious smell of food simmering on the stove all day.

My Nana, whose family had come from Poland in the early 1900s, was a great cook and she made the best stuffed cabbage! This sweet and sour cabbage soup was one of my favorite foods growing up.

In every restaurant where I cooked, I made this soup and always called it "My Nana's sweet & sour cabbage soup." It makes a great, light Friday night dinner, especially when eaten with a loaf of *challah*—braided egg bread traditionally baked for the Jewish Sabbath!

# SEE THE BIBLE THROUGH JEWISH EYES

BY DANIEL GOLDBERG, TH.D., D.D.



Dr. Goldberg serves as International Ministries Representative for Chosen People Ministries and lives in Pineville, North Carolina with his wife, Madeline.

## THE KING GIVES MESSIANIC MARITAL ADVICE (Matthew 19:1-12)

Some of life's struggles were as real in the time of Messiah as they are today. Marriage and divorce, we find, were challenging in Jesus' day, just as they are in ours. We do well to listen to His wise teaching on the subject.

### MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE IN THE TIME OF JESUS

In Matthew 19:3-12, the Pharisees questioned the Lord on the theme of marriage and divorce, asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?" (Mt. 19:3).

Two rival Jewish schools, based on the teachings of two revered sages, existed at that time. The school of Hillel explained that a man may put away his spouse for many reasons. The stricter school of Shammai maintained that divorce was only valid in cases of fornication and adultery. Thus, any answer our Lord would give would prove controversial. Sidestepping the lively theological controversy of that day, King Jesus took His questioners straight to the Hebrew Scriptures, even to the scene in the Garden of Eden. In that context, the first couple lived in a perfect environment, totally apart from sin.

God initiated the institution of marriage when He created Adam and Eve. In God's original plan, a married man is bonded to his wife, so that she is an integral part of him—"and they shall become one flesh" (Gen. 2:24). In His original arrangement, God allowed no room for polygamy or divorce, since His intent was an indissoluble relationship until death. Marriage was to be a permanent, divinely appointed, physical union between one man and one woman.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus quoted the seventh commandment (Mt. 5:27-32), "You shall not commit adultery" (Ex. 20:14). The Greek word for "adultery" involves only married persons.

Beginning with the ideal situation in the Garden of Eden, our Lord next discusses the "certificate of divorce" that was issued by Moses (Mt. 19:7). As in the days of Moses, of Jesus and also in our present times, there are many reasons that a divorce may occur. This is true of both believers and non-believers.

### THE PROBLEM OF THE HEART

Jesus the King went right to the heart of the matter when He

declared, "Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so" (Mt. 19:8). What a difference it makes after sin enters and controls the human heart! Divorce reveals a heart gone hard—either on the husband's or wife's side—and at times on both.

The Lord loves marriage; it was His idea! He wants us to keep our hearts pure so that our love for God and for our spouse burns brightly throughout our life and marriage. We must consecrate our heart to God (2 Chr. 19:3), remain upright and pure (Ps. 97:11; 73:1), and always be prayerful and confident in Him (Ps. 27:8; 112:7). King Jesus declared, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (Mt. 5:8). Thus, in the breakup of a marriage, the heart of the problem is "the heart"—of either or both parties! But in a marriage where the King rules, the love of Messiah brings blessings that last a lifetime. When our marriage or another's marriage is in trouble, we must pray that hearts will grow tender and broken before God. A changed heart can change a marriage! 🌈



## FELLOWSHIP AND FAITH DECISION DOWN UNDER

As a first step to founding a Messianic congregation in Sydney, Australia, Celebrate Messiah (Chosen People Ministries' partner "down under") held its first monthly fellowship outreach meetings earlier this year in a Jewish area. Once a month, the participants have a meal together, followed by a testimony and a Bible study. The Lord has answered prayers for a strong attendance by Jewish seekers—with the added blessing of a Russian Jewish woman receiving the Lord at the very first meeting.

## ISRAELIS IN INDIA HEAR GOSPEL WITNESS

Shirley Z., a staff member born in Israel, spoke with three Israelis at a coffee house in India while she was with our short-term mission there. When asked what was her occupation in the States, a door opened for a deep, long conversation about Yeshua (Jesus). One Israeli asked about the crucifixion of Yeshua, and Shirley was able to tell how He was the Lamb of God offered up for our transgressions. The young Israeli listened intently, and at one point asked what he must do to become a believer. Please pray that the seed that was planted will bear fruit.

## A PLEA FOR HELP AND A PRAYER ANSWERED

Veteran missionary and congregational leader Larry Feldman fielded a phone call from a desperate-sounding Israeli non-believer married to a believing spouse. The man was struggling in his marriage, and was searching for answers. He met with Larry that night and they talked for hours at a restaurant. Larry related his testimony and shared the Gospel and Messianic prophecy with him. After an emotional time of talking and tears, this Israeli man prayed right there in the restaurant to receive the Lord. He is now attending worship services.



Larry and Fran Feldman



© Carly Hennigan

## THE POWER OF ISAIAH 53

A Jewish man in his early 70s came to Chosen People Ministries' Bible study in Brooklyn, New York. He is a Holocaust survivor and is still wrestling with the many questions survivors have about the goodness of God and the behavior of many who called themselves "Christians." However, he read our 48-page booklet about Isaiah 53 and is beginning to take some steps of faith toward Jesus. At the Bible study, he looked Mitch Glaser in the eye and said, "I am beginning to think that Isaiah 53 is speaking about Jesus. I think I might believe in Him."

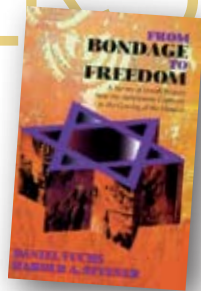
## ROUND-TRIP DIVINE APPOINTMENTS

On a flight to Israel, Julia B. met a young man who "happened" to sit next to her. He asked her to translate a Hebrew verse from the Psalms. When Julia quoted it from memory, they began a conversation that soon turned to Jesus and lasted almost the entire twelve-hour flight. Julia left the plane with a clear sense of having had a divine appointment. On the return flight, as she waited to board the plane, somebody called her name. She looked up and saw that same young man—and he was going to New York on the same flight! They once again "happened" to be seated together, and were able to continue their discussion about the Lord! Julia writes, "Not many times in my life have I met somebody as thirsty and as serious about God as this young Jewish man from Brooklyn."

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## "I support Jewish Missions"



JUDITH MILLS

As a third-generation Jewish believer in Jesus the Messiah and the granddaughter of Sanford Mills, a long-time missionary with Chosen People Ministries, I thought it was normal to be Jewish and believe in Jesus. It was only in high school and college that I realized that my family could be considered odd, not only by other Jewish people, but by some Christians as well.

Why do I support Jewish missions? I think that if you are a Christian and believe the Scriptures, you must give special attention to Paul's exhortation in Romans 1:16 to bring the Gospel "to the Jew first" and that the "least of these my brethren" of whom Jesus

speaks in Matthew 25:40 are His own Jewish kinsmen and, of course, others in the household of faith. I believe that Gospel outreach is a commandment we must heed. Besides, if you have something wonderful, don't you want to share it with those you love? I think there are many causes that are worthy of support, but Jewish missions should be at the top of the list.

**Write to us and share your story of why you support Jewish missions!**

**For more information on ways you can be involved in giving, please contact us today. Call 1-888-293-7482 (or in Canada 1-888-442-5535) or email us at [giving@chosenpeople.com](mailto:giving@chosenpeople.com).**

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## The Chosen People Newsletter

Chosen People Ministries has been taking the love of the Messiah to Jewish people worldwide since 1894.

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Please remember Chosen People Ministries in your will. "I will bless those who bless you." (Genesis 12:3)



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