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HOLY LAND MISSIONS

Calvary Jerusalem Church

This issue

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INSIDE the mission work. By Pastor Steven Khoury

Shalom and *Salam* from the land where our King, Jesus, served and walked every day many years ago. As the founder of such a dynamic fast-paced ministry, testimony writing is a time I look forward to sharing with our praying partners the new heart-touching stories and challenges of our people here. Those who faithfully pray and support us are always part of the blessing when we see God move here. The stories inside this letter show only a small part of a big picture of God's grace. As He answers our cries, I pray it will be a great tool to encourage you too. When the enemy uses stress or brokenness to attack your faith, remember to dwell in the knowledge that the Lord is with you. You are still making a difference with your prayers because you were bought by His blood, and you are a *beloved child* of the King.

I feel that God has heard your prayers for my family this season. Many of you know that I am now a father to four wonderful children, with Micah's healthy birth last year. They are healthy and as energetic as ever. They love God, and their pure hearts remind Shari and I what our purpose on earth is. We are called to make a difference in the NOW. Even though it has been a difficult year with Shari's knee surgery from a slip and fall injury, and the direct threats (from fanatics for our stand with teaching the truth of Christ's love in some of the hostile villages and cities we are minister in), we still see the Lord through *every circumstance*. Your prayers of support have been greatly appreciated by Shari and myself. After the next surgery this fall, Shari should be able to walk normally and *maybe even catch Micah*!

Also, our team members' families are growing and healthy this season. HLM has been able to help support several ministry expansions in the Holy Land. Calvary Church Jerusalem has added another three full-time ministry people to their current team, including a couple previously from Egypt. They have been training for some time to join the "*Al-Maseer*" team (which is our evangelism ministry branch). Pray for them as they are a response to the many requests of the local Muslims who are asking us to keep doing more in their community because their *eyes have seen that Jesus changes lives*! Calvary Church Jerusalem has been so blessed to be called a "needed light" in the East Jerusalem neighbor the Lord has placed us in. The Lord has brought Egyptians, Syrians, Muslims, Jews and Government Officials to join us and experience what a church built on love and forgiveness is all about. We are still standing strong in Jerusalem, teaching the message of Christ. When believers are daily met with attacks, persecution, or pressures from all around and still lift their hands to worship Jesus in the city where it all began this is one purposeful reason why we choose to ***continue being a light*** in Jerusalem daily.

Lastly, your prayers changed lives here this summer. The Family Revival Retreat outreach experienced a great move of God's saving grace. There was a 77% response from those attended. I am excited to share that many made a decision to make a change in their boldness, marriage, or faith. These decisions to be sober in mind will translate to a revival on the streets of Jerusalem. YOU helped make it possible with your support for Calvary Church and HLM. Please take a few moments to read what you are a part of, I pray it will bless you and encourage you to not give up.

Holy Land Missions is a faith-based, nonprofit organization with a driving passion to connect the worldwide church to the suffering Arab Christian Communities and others by providing feeding initiatives, community outreaches and evangelical programs inside the Holy Land. HOLY LAND MISSIONS, is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization (27-2905400). All donations are tax-deductible where allowed by law.

A Trip of True F.A.I.T.H.

By Daniel Collins, HLM STAFF

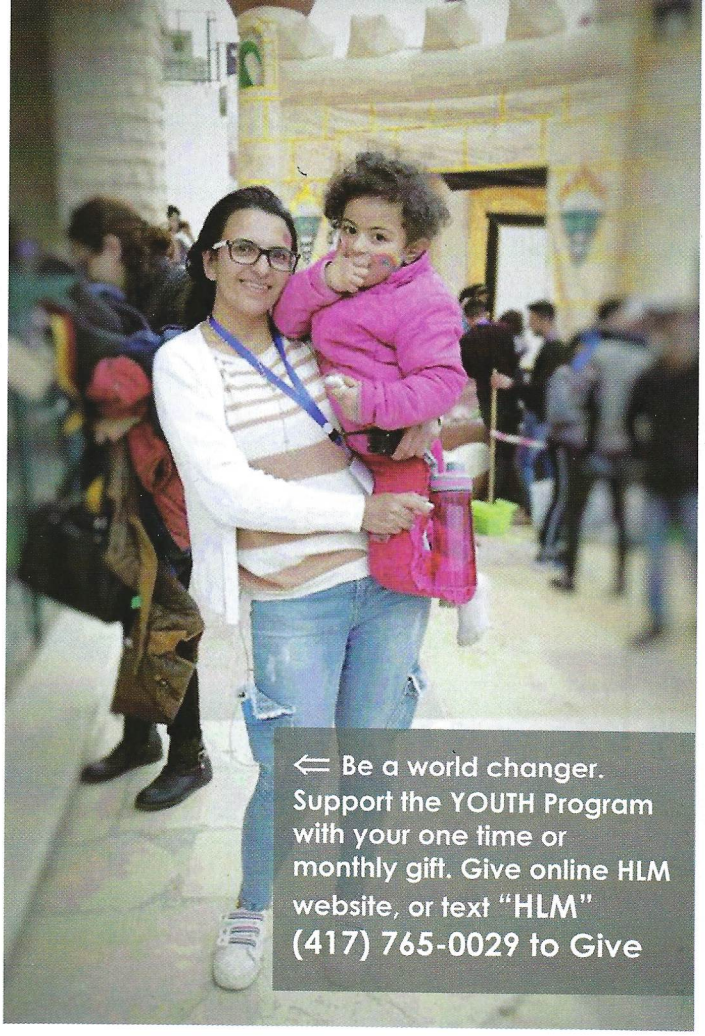
So many of our partners around the world pray for the lost in the Middle East, and some even join our HLM annual trips. These special volunteers help either Calvary Church or the Bethlehem Church reach out to the local hurting. Recently, a team of three American volunteers visited the home of an older woman named *Christina** who was friends with a woman of the Bethlehem congregation. Christina shared that she was faithful to the Catholic Church ever since she was a little girl. From the moment the team arrived, they immediately noticed inside her home candles were lit in front of a Mary statue in the living room. However, as they drank coffee and became acquainted, the LORD opened the opportunity to share the full Gospel with Christina!

After one team member, Amanda* shared her testimony that true "F.A.T.I.H" is "*Forsaking All I Trust Him*". Soon the invitational question was asked. Christina became overwhelmed by the truth she heard and bowed her head and thought for a moment. Then she got up out of her chair and proceeded to the statue of Mary. She stood there for a moment then she blew out the candles and turned to the translator and said in Arabic, "No more of this…no more. All I want is Jesus!"

Right there in her living room, as she held hands with her new foreign friends, she called on the name of the Lord Jesus to be saved! With tears in her eyes, she repeatedly thanked Amanda for coming to her house and sharing the Gospel.

Did you know you can minister in the same way as Amanda did? We encourage each and every single one of you to reach out to your leaders and ask them to consider coming to serve and walk where Jesus did. HLM hosts 12 educational mission tours to Israel every year. 2020 Trips are already shaping up. Visit our website to know more.

**Names have been changed*



URGENT NEED:

MONTHLY SUPPORT

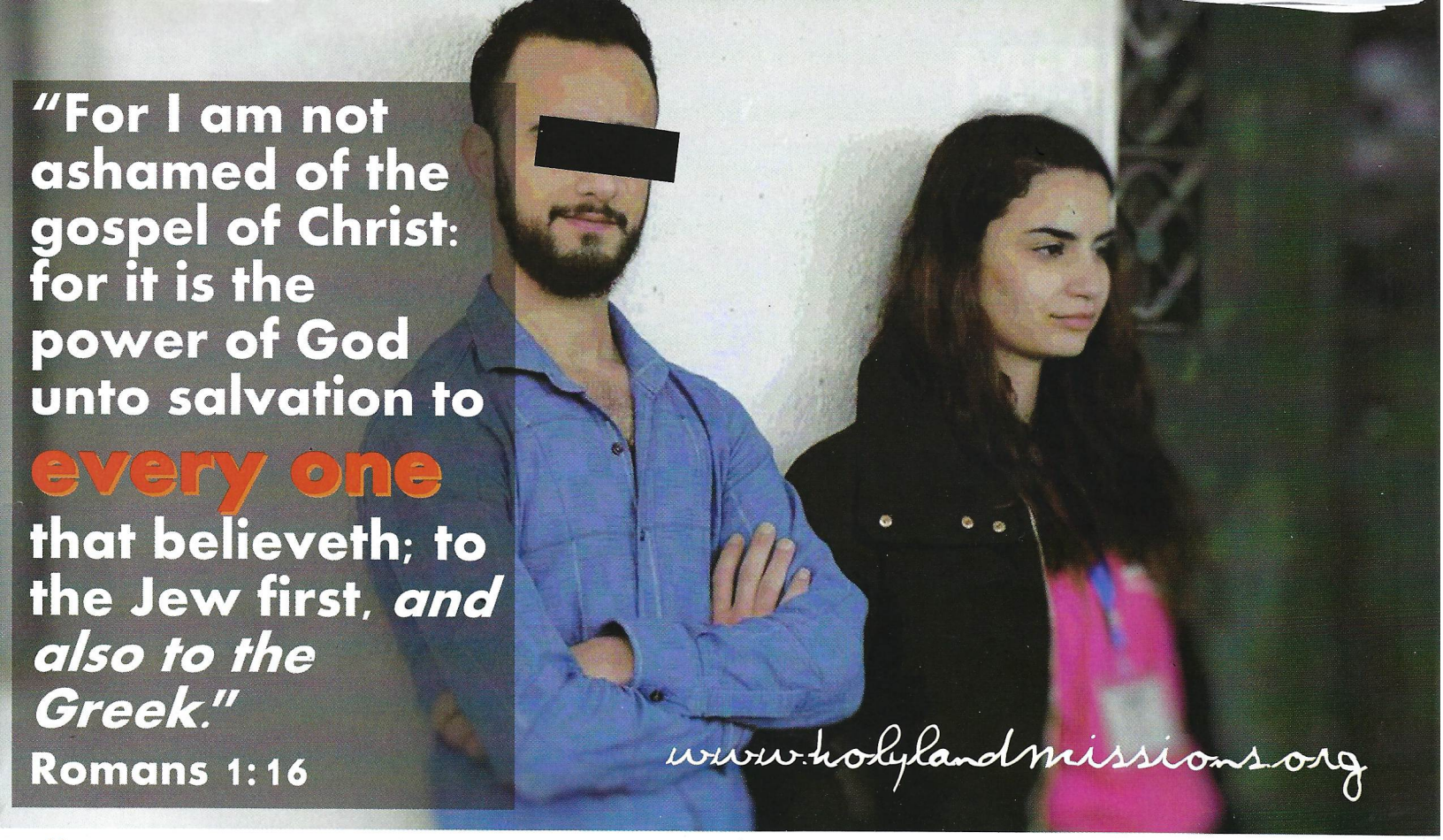
PROJECT COST: $20,000

Text "HLM" **(417) 765-0029** to give via cellular phone | Visit holylandmissings.org to give by credit card or Pay Pal online | Call us at **(225) 916-1903** to give via customer support.

We need YOUR HELP to send *Searching Arabs* to our EVANGELISTC monthly programs.

HLM is *expanding* and *growing** praise God! We have the great opportunity to pour into the local communities here.... but in order to accomplish that we need to *urgently increase our monthly budget* by $20,000 going into 2019.

**These growth opportunities have increased our monthly running costs to include; expanding staff, covering evangelists' living expenses, updating church vehicles, refurnishing outdated rooms, and budgeting for construction costs.*



"Nour is our Al-maseer director; she wrote me a heart-wrenching and uplifting story of a Muslim woman who attended our outreach. "Dear Ps. Khoury, in our most recent Muslim woman's outreach, I was blessed to meet Duaa', she's a special 30-year-old young lady, with a hungry heart risking all seeking tangible hope. On the lower level underground floor of the church, I began a friendly conversation with her, where she began telling me her current life story. It was hard for me to hold my tears in fact, I couldn't control my expressions while she was sharing her story with me. She has been a house prisoner by her family for many years she had nothing to do except cleaning and raising her brothers and sisters, she heard about the major streets of the city of Bethlehem but never walked on them even though she lives in the town. I was overwhelmed with more tears when she shared, "this is my first time out of the house for many years. I came here today because I heard of Jesus and what He is doing here amongst AL-maseer and those attending' I had to lie to my father to leave the house today I'm here in secret.' I was shocked to listen to her share her story. I was silent for most of the conversation and was only able to bring myself to being able to speak when she made the statement, that she came because she heard that Jesus is speaking to people and healing hearts. I looked into her eyes as a woman to woman and said to her, Duaa God is telling you: you are beautiful, and there's no mistake in you. He loves you as you are all he wants is your heart. I asked her if she would like to hear his voice, and that starts simply by opening her heart to Him and pray with me. After we prayed, she looked up and started crying tears of Freedom. We are continuing our discussions and conversation through Facebook, and she is daily expressing, 'I want to learn more about Jesus. My life relates to every example of the stories you shared with me like the woman at the well, the adulteress woman, and more. Jesus Christ transformed them and healed them. I want the same from, Jesus, I now know He can do the same for me.' Ps. Khoury, we are making a difference through Al-maseer thank you for investing your time and heart in us teaching us to see people through the eyes of Jesus."

⇐ A GOOD REASON TO LEAVE HOME.

A Special Contribution article about Nour, Al-Masser's local director, from Ps. Steven Khoury.

Partner with Us...

We want Christian believers to stay and give the message of HOPE in Bethlehem & Jerusalem.

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Jesus Creates A Ripple Effect.

By HLM STAFF

Al-Maseer (*Al-Maseer is a branch of the Holy Land Missions' partners evangelistic program*) started three days of youth activities recently. It was one of the special outreaches geared towards Muslim young to come and know more about Jesus. The best way to do this is to show them love and by simply clarifying some of the critical misconceptions they have of Christ.

Nour, the program director stated, "On the first day we noticed one of the young men, who comes from a Muslim background, seemed very curious. He started the day off being very quiet and to himself. After a long day of sharing, his emotional signs transformed into signs of being joyful."

This joy increased when the second and third session of the day continued. The teaching focused on the opportunity of hope which God gives to every human being through the endless and everlasting work of Jesus sacrificing Himself for mankind. This young man listened quietly to the gospel and the worship at first. However, later as the worship began Nour asked them to close their eyes and focus on God's voice. During these minutes that the team prayed for them, the Lord through the Holy Spirit started speaking to many. God spoke especially to the heart of this young man. It wasn't hard to notice since he was lifting his head to the heavens with tears coming down his face as he began crying out to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

He kept saying, "*I can feel His presence I can hear a Holy voice speaking to me I am a child of God.*" Through this specific God-ordained part of the second day, the group had one question, "Who is this Jesus that you speak about, and how come we never felt what we felt when we heard the voice through our prophet or teachings?" Nour was then led by the Lord's presence to close off the second day explaining the simple plan of salvation, and how Gods' plan is to invite them into a company with Him through accepting Christ as their Savior. This experience set the pace for the third day of this outreach. They were taught we are now a family in Christ. This means their joy is our joy, and their victories are ours and the burdens and fears they face we face and share with our beloved Savior.

ALL the Muslims who attended turned their lives to Christ and are now weekly being discipled by Nour and the team in HLM's Jerusalem and Bethlehem's locations. Some have come from the largest Muslim families, so the ripple effect of this one outreach is only one example of how the Lord is working through HLM, and those risking much so that one more can be lifted up through Jesus.

HOLY LAND MISSIONS
$35 a month to support Holy Land Christians as they SPREAD THE GOSPEL.