



NEWSLETTER

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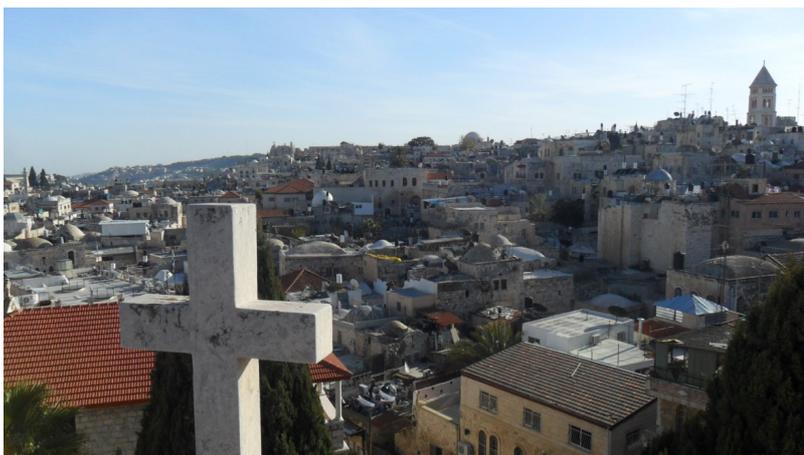
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Jesus - Light of the World



John 8:12

Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."



Dear Friends and Supporters

I am writing this very personal letter on the last day of this strange and challenging year.

Looking back it would be easy to emphasize the things we were missing and lacking: trips, birthday parties, concerts, conferences and other things, that are making our lives intensive and dynamic. Lots of other problems increased, but we were learning how to adjust and deal with this crisis situation.

I would like to focus on the things we can be thankful for.

We are so grateful that we were able - in spite of having three lockdowns in Israel - to continue our work and help our people, who are in need of this now support more than ever before. And especially we are thankful, that Israel did not close its 'doors' and 20,000 new immigrants could make Aliyah, most of them from Russia, Ukraine and Ethiopia.

By chance, all the core members of our Israeli team are immigrants from Russia, Ukraine and Ethiopia. That's why we are so sensitive to this topic, because we know how difficult the initial phase is and how vital it is to receive all kind of support in order to make Israel your home.

Each one of us has his/her unique story of 'Aliyah' (Hebrew for repatriation and also ascent). I would like to share my own story. I came to Israel from the Ukraine without my husband and parents, because they were against moving to Israel. So more than 20 years ago I came with my four little children, two suitcases and thirty dollars in my pocket. A strong desire to come to Israel was driving me, that I was ready to leave everything behind. Additionally, because we were Jews we suffered a lot of discrimination in the Ukraine.

Lena with the Huguenot Cross



At this time I was not a believer, but God was moving me, as He was moving Theodor Herzl and other non-believers, who miraculously fulfilled God's promises given to the Jewish people in the Old Testament.

Later, when Yeshua found me, I met amazing people, who were teaching me what real love means. I understood that God was always with me, even then when I didn't know anything about His existence.

I would like to tell you the story of an elderly lady from Switzerland, who passed away a few years ago. We met in Jerusalem and felt attracted to each other from the very first moment. I was visiting her a number of times in her old house in Switzerland where she lived. She prayed for me and my children every day. She had no own children, so she was 'adopting' spiritual children all over the world. But Israel had a special place in her heart, and my Aliyah story touched her deeply.

She decided to give me as a gift a Huguenot Cross which was the family treasure for more than two hundred years, when they fled to Switzerland from persecution in France. For her my story, when I ran away from Ukraine, leaving everything behind, was similar to the story of her own family and she could understand me very well. When people leave their country because they are looking for freedom and dignity, it is never easy and they are taking a lot of risks. But sometimes it is the only way to live in freedom and to improve your life.

Life in Israel is difficult, but God brought us here. He was helping us and He is enabling us now to help others.

We will continue our work, and we are thankful for all of you who are supporting our people and organization. Israel is a calling, a gift and a big responsibility... where people are kissing the ground at their arrival.

**We wish you a Happy and blessed New Year
and
new beginnings are waiting for us!**

Lena Levin and the Machaseh Team in Jerusalem!

Luke 6, 36:

„Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.“