

Thanksgiving is a wonderful time of the Year!

I love reading the Psalms of David throughout the year, but especially at Thanksgiving. No matter what life brings, David demonstrates a thankful heart for the love, mercy, grace and abundant provision given by Almighty God.

Recently I found blessings in *“I will extol the LORD with all my heart...” (111:1); “Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who finds great delight in His commands” (112:1); “Good will come to him who is generous and lends freely...” (112:5); “Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to Your name be the glory, because of Your love and faithfulness.” (115:1);*

And from 113: *“⁵Who is like the LORD our God, the One who sits enthroned on high, ⁶who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth? ⁷He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; ⁸He seats them with princes, with the princes of His people.”*

We are so grateful that you are part of this team that is helping raise “the poor from the dust” and lift “the needy from the ash heap” because God Himself says He will seat them with “princes, with the princes of His people.”

In our last newsletter we shared about bringing our first director of our work in Israel to the U.S. to be trained in the work of Rescue.

To all he came in contact with, Gene demonstrated a humble heart desiring to find and do God’s will in his life.

What a joy it was for us to work with him over these past few months, to see him grow in his knowledge of the homeless and addicted and in his love for those whose lives have been so devastated by sin; to come to know his heart for God and the Word of God; and to sense, as expressed by many, that Gene has the call of God on his life for this work.

He returned to Israel in mid October. He is already coming into contact with those who are addicted to drugs and alcohol. He told me recently that he is finding those who want out of their addiction. However, he is finding the resources for help very limited.

He will be working with his board of directors to locate a facility as soon as possible so that we can establish a recovery program for those who are ready to make changes in their lives.

God has brought us to this time and this place. He has given to us the opportunity of establishing the work of Rescue in the land of Israel. We know the need is great as immigrants continue to pour into the land—many of them bringing their addictions with them. In addition, drug use is a major problem world wide and Israel is not immune.

We at RESCUE Israel are not interested in providing social welfare reform programs. Our first calling is to demonstrate God's love in practical ways, build trust in the lives of those we work with and earn the right to speak into their lives the Good News of the Gospel of our Lord.

We have no greater calling than to see precious individuals come to know that their Redeemer lives and find faith in the saving mercy and grace of Yeshua (Jesus the Christ), the Messiah of Israel.

In the progress of building the work of Rescue in Israel, we are ready now to move to the next phase—establishing a shelter recovery program.

Feeding programs are doorways. Through them we are given the privilege of getting to know people and build trust relationships with them. When we find those who desire to see change in their lives, they can be moved into the shelter. There they will be taught the Word of God along with programs designed to address addictions, life skills, Hebrew and other training which will help them become godly, productive citizens in Israel.

Our expenses are increasing with each step. Your continued help is needed as we move ahead to bring the help and hope of God to the homeless, addicted and poor of Israel.

Thanksgiving: a special time of Thanks.

We are Thankful to our Lord for the opportunity to take the work of Rescue to Israel and bring hope to the homeless, addicted and poor. We are Thankful for you—your prayers and the financial support you give to this work. We are Thankful for the prayer requests you send our way as well.

“Thank you Lord for the privilege of serving you and your covenant people in Israel. Thank you for those who support this work through their prayers, their finances and their commitment of time—bless them abundantly. We continue to pray for those who do not know you as their redeemer—that the day will come when they will call you Lord. We pray for the Peace of Jerusalem. Come quickly Messiah Yeshua.”

Blessings and joy to you and your family as you celebrate our great God and King throughout the holidays,



George Wehnes
Executive Director

P.S. Thank you for standing with us through these important building days. Please consider an extra gift to RESCUE Israel during the holidays and if you are able, increasing your gift throughout 2008.

P.P.S This December we celebrate the 3 year anniversary of RESCUE Israel. Page 3 is a summary of these years and a recognition of God's faithfulness in bringing us to this time.

Building a Rescue Mission is much like building a house: 1.) determine the need—see the vision, allow God to lead 2) find a location, 3) establish funding—on going! 4) find the work force, 5) lay a foundation 6) build the structure, 7) equip the house, 8) move in.

After founding and directing the Olympia Union Gospel Mission in Olympia, WA (1995 to 2004) God put on my heart to explore the issues of homeless and addiction in Israel. In December 2004 I found there was a growing problem but there was no work of Rescue. On December 14, 2004 we established RESCUE Israel to begin the work of Rescue in Tel Aviv.

In April/May 2005 we found Messianic (Christian) leaders in Israel were interested and had a desire to see the work of Rescue come to Israel. For the balance of the year we found people in the U.S. who were interested in providing prayer and financial support for the vision.

On February 13, we meet with leaders from 12 Messianic congregations. We explained what the work of Rescue was and found they were interested in seeing this work begin in Tel Aviv. You see, they knew they had a great need, they just did not know what they could do.

During the rest of February and part of March we work with these leaders to establish a foundation for the work. They were given assignments to accomplish by June 2006.

In June/July 2006 we again worked with these leaders and set up the legal non-profit organization. Ohel Avraham—the ministry arm of RESCUE Israel in Tel Aviv became legal in August 2006.

We established our first feeding program in September 2006 and feed some 200-250 people a week until April 2007 when the building we used was sold and we could no longer feed.

In March 2007 we interviewed and selected Gene as the first director of a Rescue Mission in Israel. In June 2007 we brought Gene to the U.S. to be trained in the work of Rescue. He worked in various Union Gospel Missions in California, New York, Kansas and Washington State.

In October, Gene returned to Tel Aviv. He will be working with his board to re-establish our feeding program and institute a shelter for addiction recovery.

I was told by Messianic leaders in Israel that whatever time frame I had about getting something up and running in Israel—forget Western standards, “you are in Israel and things move much slower!” However, I am very pleased with the progress we have made.

This progress has not been without its difficulties. There have been road blocks and barriers many times over. I don't worry about them as they come with the territory. However, your prayers are so important in this fight for precious men, women, boys and girls coming to faith in their Messiah.