



Impossible to Describe

With over two years of planning and high expectations, I have to admit our Israel gathering exceeded my expectations in every way.

As I've tried to analyze why, I realized it was the combination of being on location in Israel (what many call the Fifth Gospel), coupled with 240 leaders from all over the globe... passionate about teaching the Life of Christ. The camaraderie, the like-minded passion, and the level of leadership... made this gathering "a historical event and a dream come true". Listen to some of the responses:

"This trip was extra "rich", because it was with a group that is passionately giving their lives to reach the lost and make disciples in different places around the world. And, when you're sitting on the southern steps of the Temple Mount, where Pentecost very likely occurred and where 3,000 people became believers, it can take your breath away!" **Todd from Romania**

"Thanks again for such an amazing time in Israel. It really did open a whole new world for me and I am forever a changed person. I will never read my Bible in the same way again." **Cheng... Asia**

It was a GREAT time in Israel! It has impacted me even more each day as I have sat down to spend time with the Lord in the morning. It's amazing to have images float through your head as you hear places mentioned, not to mention the incredible time with people that I love and new people that we got to meet! One of my favorite fun memories was reading from Zechariah on the Mt. of Olives in the freezing cold, picturing Jesus coming, and having "Jesus" announce himself behind you, only to be told that we were waiting for the "Other One!" **Laurie... Indiana**

Thank you so much for organizing such a great event. Not even close I didn't imagine how wonderful it would be in Israel. My eyes are much more open now for the Bible. **Sebastian – Slovenia**



It was an amazing experience for me. I was transformed by the messages given and the tour has drastically affected the way I read the Bible. The stories in the Bible seem to come to life now as I've walked these steps and can visualize places more accurately. **Nate... Czech**



It has been a week since we returned from Israel and we are still processing all that we experienced during our time there. Personally, I feel so privileged and blessed to have been able to be in Israel at this time in history, as well as to connect and build relationships with so many people from across the world who have a similar vision and passion for the young people of the world! We are so grateful for the generous funding that made it possible to bring so many African representatives - some of whom have never been out of their own country before! **Tara... J-Life Africa**

It has been a dream of my life to be in Israel. But this was even more that I could imagine. **Chaga from Serbia**

For me this was once-in-a-life-time opportunity. You may not fully understand what this means for some of us, but perhaps one day God will help you and your supporters see the fruits of your labor. My family has dedicated 15 -30 April to pray for you, your family, and those who made this trip possible.. **David... Zambia**

It was powerful to read the passages on locations where all the healing and miracles happened through Jesus and his disciples. I am glad I can be one of His disciples, too! I would love every people to know Jesus as I do. I feel spiritually energized by the tour. Thank you. **Dragon... Czech**

I want to thank you again for this unique and life touching experience I had in Israel. It was a dream-come-true for me. It was like a large amount of grace poured over me because you made it possible for people like me. I am sure I would have never made it to Israel unless such an opportunity was given. Thank you. **Christy... Romania**

I was among the small number of American students who were blessed to come and play a small part in the amazing experience that you and your team put together. I cannot express in words the impact that was made upon my heart in traveling to Israel for the first time, witnessing the things that I witnessed and all the while being exposed to youth ministry on a global level. **Ben... Dallas Seminary**

Thank you very much indeed for giving me this great and blessed opportunity to visit the Holy Land. I was so blessed.



On the Family Front

Over the weekend our oldest daughter Julie got engaged. Needless to say, this is an exciting time for our family! Pete Goodman is a great guy, has just taken a position as youth pastor in Wichita Kansas, and is a part of my Live2:6 Mentor Group... which meets quarterly to discuss youth ministry and the Life of Christ. We are excited for Julie and proud to have Pete become part of our family. After years of praying for the mate of our daughter... it is great to finally make the connection. With one daughter married and one to be married, we are looking forward to the day when we can spoil some grand-kids! ☺



I also just completed our Brothers fishing weekend in Tulsa Oklahoma. All eight of my brothers were able to come, and I'm proud to say I caught the biggest paddle fish ☺ However, I admit that I made a serious mistake one day... suggesting that the first to catch a fish ought to buy supper. Needless to say, I caught the first fish... and they wouldn't let me escape my words, even though they never really agreed to the concept. Lesson well learned... I'll never make that statement again. ☺

The Next Step of Faith

In a week I head to Vancouver Canada to begin meetings with a team of designers and leaders, to begin to craft a web based training module for use within Campus Crusade and GYI. This will be a major project which will take several months and a significant investment of time and resources. Will you pray for wisdom as we have our first meeting and seek to develop the foundational concepts and design? I need wisdom from above.



Prayer requests

- For wisdom for the web based training meeting in Canada April 10-11th.
- For wisdom for the GYI leadership team as we plan our next steps and capitalize on all the momentum we received from this gathering. We have our first post-conference leadership phone call in Mid April.
- For continued ministry fruitfulness of the 240 leaders who participated in the Israel gathering.
- For protection from one of our Israel delegates, Richard, who will be going before a Muslim court this weekend in his home country because of preaching the gospel and reaching out to some youth in a slum area.

On the Lighter Side

After a hardy rainstorm filled all the potholes in the streets and alleys, a young mother watched her two little boys playing in the puddle through her kitchen window.

The older of the two, a five year old lad, grabbed his sibling by the back of his head and shoved his face into the water hole.

As the boy recovered and stood laughing and dripping, the mother runs to the yard in a panic. "Why on earth did you do that to your little brother?!" she says as she shook the older boy in anger.

"We were just playing 'church' mommy," he said "And I was just baptizing him.....in the name of the Father, the Son and in...the hole-he-goes."

NEW AND IMPROVED IRS FORM 1040-2EZ (Tax Year 2008)

Name: _____ Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____

Social Security Number: ___-___-____

1. How much money did you make in 2004? \$ _____

2. Send it to us: Internal Revenue Service Payment Processing Center, Memphis, TN

A minister decided that a visual demonstration would add emphasis to his Sunday sermon. Four worms were placed into four separate jars.

- The first worm was put into a container of alcohol.
- The second worm was put into a container of cigarette smoke.
- The third worm was put into a container of chocolate syrup.
- The fourth worm was put into a container of good clean soil.

At the conclusion of the sermon, the Minister reported the following results:

- The first worm in alcohol - Dead.
- The second worm in cigarette smoke - Dead.
- Third worm in chocolate syrup - Dead.
- Fourth worm in good clean soil - Alive.

Just then a little old woman in the back quickly raised her hand and said, "I get it! As long as you drink, smoke and eat chocolate, you won't have worms!"

A dog is truly a man's best friend.

If you don't believe it, just try this experiment.....

Put your dog and your wife in the trunk of the car for an hour.
When you open the trunk, **who is really happy to see you!?**

Support for Dann and Char Spader or the ministries of Global Youth Initiative can be sent to: Global Youth Initiative c/o Josiah Venture, P.O. Box 4317, Wheaton Illinois 60189-4317