

AN OPEN DOOR



2015

DONOR REPORT

 THE JOSHUA FUND®



BEHOLD, I HAVE
PUT BEFORE YOU AN
OPEN DOOR WHICH
NO ONE IS ABLE TO
SHUT...

[REVELATION 3:8]

FAITHFUL FRIENDS,

This year of 2015 has been fraught with enormous challenges and hardship for people living in Israel and the Arab world. For many, the future seems hopeless, as war and rumors of war, terrorism, religious persecution, and a horrific refugee crisis have plunged the region into great darkness.

Yet, in the midst of that darkness, we are deeply encouraged. Why? Because we are seeing God move powerfully in the Epicenter. I am thrilled to report that the Light of the Gospel is spreading throughout the region, thanks in part to your faithful prayers and your generous gifts to The Joshua Fund. We want you to know that we are seeing God's faithfulness to His Church in the Epicenter as well as to those who don't yet know Him and who desperately need His light.

Indeed, if there is one thing that characterizes 2015 for me, in the midst of the darkness and trauma in the Middle East, it's the open door we are seeing for the proclamation of the Gospel. We are witnessing with our own eyes, as well as through the eyes of those with whom we partner, an unprecedented openness among Jews and Arabs to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Throughout this report, you will find stories and statements from our ministry partners echoing this truth. As one of our partners recently recounted to us, this could be "the most fruitful [year in ministry] in Israel in almost 2,000 years!" Such words remind me of the words of our Lord Jesus to one of the Churches in Revelation: "Behold I have put before you an open door which no one can shut." (Rev. 3:8)

To our astonishment, Israelis are suddenly searching for answers to the deepest and most important questions concerning life, death, God, forgiveness and eternity – and in seemingly unprecedented numbers! Some are searching through the Hebrew Scriptures for answers. Some are actually reading the New Testament for the first time. What's more, hundreds of thousands are searching online for information about the Messiah, including a new video series that has gone viral, which features the testimonies of Israelis who have found salvation in Christ (see related article, page 4).

In the pages that follow, you will find exciting news about God's work in the Epicenter – and how your prayers and financial support have helped to advance His Kingdom. We thank God for your faithfulness in helping us share His love with the people of the Epicenter.

As we move forward, of course, we know that many challenges await us in 2016. The spiritual and humanitarian needs in neighboring countries are nothing short of staggering. Meanwhile, Israelis live under the threat of war and terrorism on a near daily basis.

Even so, The Joshua Fund is excited about the open door God has provided and the opportunities that lie ahead. Indeed, this is why The Joshua Fund was created:

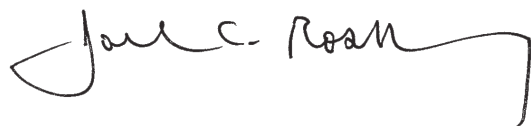
- To bless Israel and her Neighbors, because this is what God commands us to do;
- To help care for the needy and the vulnerable, especially during times of war and terror; and
- To strengthen and encourage the Church to move through the doors God has opened and to share His love with others.

We are looking forward to watching God work in the Epicenter in the year ahead and to joining local believers in advancing His work. Would you please pray for our board and staff as we seek the Lord's guidance for 2016? We know that He will provide for every need. We prayerfully seek the Lord to make us truly faithful stewards, investing each dollar with wisdom and discernment to bear good and eternal fruit.

On behalf of The Joshua Fund's board and staff, thank you for standing with us so faithfully during this challenging time. By His grace and with your loving and sacrificial help, we have helped touch many lives in the Epicenter with God's love and mercy. What a great joy and privilege!

May the Lord richly bless you and your family as we work together to bless Israel and her Neighbors in the name of Jesus, according to Genesis 12:1-3.

Yours in Christ Jesus in the Epicenter,



JOEL C. ROSENBERG
Founder and Chairman

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WATCH A VIDEO MESSAGE
FROM JOEL C. ROSENBERG
OR VISIT JOSHUAFUND.COM

THE POWER OF INTERNET EVANGELISM

For the past several years, Jewish believers from various ministries have worked together to share the Gospel through the Internet. The Lord is blessing their efforts beyond our wildest imaginations! A great number of creatively filmed, poignant videos of Israeli testimonies of salvation are now being made widely available on the Internet, both in Hebrew and in English. Millions have already viewed these videos, and the number of views continues to rise daily! For most Israelis, nothing is as truly compelling and impactful as hearing the truth of the personal journey of another Israeli who has considered Jesus as Messiah and has now placed their full trust in Him. We are rejoicing over those who have long had honest questions about their Messiah, and who have now found the truth of Jesus (Yeshua) having examined the Scriptures for themselves. We are also deeply grateful for the answers being put forth by these Internet ministries in refuting some of the traditional rabbinic arguments against Jesus as Messiah – arguments that now can be clearly seen as weak and skewed treatments of the Scriptures. Your continued prayer and financial support have been key factors in helping The Joshua Fund assist these vital ministries' work within Israel.

**“WE BELIEVE THERE IS MORE OPENNESS. . .
WE HAVE SEEN MORE ISRAELIS COME TO
FAITH THAN BEFORE AND WHAT IS MORE
INTERESTING IS, THAT MORE ISRAELIS
COME TO FAITH THROUGH ISRAELIS,
RATHER THAN THROUGH GENTILES.”**

[A MINISTRY PARTNER IN ISRAEL]

BLESSING AND ENCOURAGING WOMEN IN THE EPICENTER

The plight and condition of women in the Middle East touches all of our hearts. Several of The Joshua Fund's key ministry partners are deeply dedicated to reaching and ministering to women in Israel and the surrounding nations by providing for their immediate practical needs and offering spiritual encouragement through Bible teaching, fellowship and childcare. Too often women in the Epicenter are marginalized, targeted in acts of violence or simply ignored. We count it a treasure to help ensure they receive the Father's love and know of His watchful eye and unfailing attention to their needs. As you can imagine, in some cases simply listening to their stories and sharing the love of God with each woman brings tremendous comfort and encouragement.

In the neighboring nations, your acts of devotion helped care for women who were victims of the terrorist invasion. With the heart to show the love of Jesus Christ and to spiritually strengthen and refresh women that have suffered hardship over the last year, our partners were able to give many a safe place to share painful experiences and hear the hope of the Gospel. In other areas, your gifts provided for Bible teaching and discipleship training for many young women of the Epicenter.

Our partners also offered discipleship training, Bible teaching and encouragement at women's gatherings in Arab villages throughout Israel, along with support for the practical needs of women and their babies. In each instance, The Joshua Fund assisted in meeting a woman's immediate needs but also in extending spiritual care and encouragement by sharing the love of God in real and practical ways.

“I FEEL LIKE 2015 WAS BY FAR THE MOST FRUITFUL YEAR IN MINISTRY IN ISRAEL THAT I EXPERIENCED, AND PERHAPS THE MOST FRUITFUL ONE IN ISRAEL IN ALMOST 2,000 YEARS!”

[A MINISTRY PARTNER IN ISRAEL]



FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH

Headline news from the Epicenter typically highlights rocket attacks and invading forces, yet there exists a far more vital struggle in the Middle East that rarely draws attention – the advancement of the Gospel by believers in Israel and the West Bank. Many wonderful congregations led by Jewish and Arab pastors frequently endure the rigors of this frontline spiritual battle. The Joshua Fund walks and works with pastors in the region, many who tirelessly “fight this good fight of faith” (1 Timothy 6:12) on a daily basis. No doubt this conflict can produce weariness and exhaustion on the way to victory. For the last seven years, we have been honored to provide these faithful men an opportunity for a reprieve from the battle at a five-day retreat where they gather to study God’s Word, fellowship with other pastors and like-minded brothers and return home to the “Spiritual front” rested and rejuvenated.

We rejoice with you who have partnered in this work with resources and who labor with us in prayer. Your gifts have enabled these pastors and ministry leaders to experience deep rest, fellowship, and the ministry-sustaining encouragement they need.



MASTER'S PROGRAM: BROTHERS STUDYING TOGETHER IN UNITY

For Israeli pastors currently serving congregations throughout the Land, a new Master's degree program at a local Bible college has been set into motion. It has not been designed for young people sensing a call into ministry. Rather, it's geared for those currently serving as senior pastors, shepherds and ministry leaders – men who eagerly desire further equipping in the practical aspects of ministry: teaching verse-by-verse through the Bible; marriage counseling; complying with Israel's complex laws and regulations; etc.

What is particularly exciting is that the program, of which The Joshua Fund is a key partner, isn't merely for Jewish pastors. More than half of the two-dozen participating students in the first year's course were Israeli Arab pastors. The courses were also presented by both Jewish and Arab teachers, including an Arab pastor from Ramallah.

Some of the Arab pastors said they had never met an Israeli Jewish pastor, even though they don't live far from each other. Some of the Jewish pastors admitted that they had never fully appreciated the unique challenges facing their Israeli Arab brothers who pastor. Everyone we have talked to has shared that the friendships built and the trust and encouragement that resulted from studying together has been absolutely life-changing.



Please be praying, as a new class begins in the New Year, that the Lord would do great and mighty things in each of their hearts and through them, as well.



INVESTING IN THE NEXT GENERATION

One of The Joshua Fund's dearest ministry partners leads conferences and other activities in Israel where young adults can clearly hear the truth of the Gospel. The goal is to help these young adults personally know and understand Christ's love for them and to help them become like Him.

Our partner arranges various activities for young people, such as national conferences, regional youth events, hiking and camping trips and events such as the Walk on Water conference held in August by the Sea of Galilee. The events provide teens with a support group, a sense of belonging and a greater understanding of the Scriptures. Jewish and Arab youth groups from all over Israel are invited, along with their congregational youth leaders, to learn from the Word and gain memorable new experiences. We share our partner's commitment to keeping youth ministry meaningfully tethered to the life of local congregations. In addition to the youth conferences, our partner organizes training seminars to equip youth leaders and visit congregations – speaking clearly to pastors, parents and youth leaders about the needs of their teens.

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY

Gathering together, greeting each other with the love of Christ and finding a seat in the room, a small group of believers in an Arab nation prepared to meet with God. After praising and worshipping the Lord through music, the group spent extended time with some local and guest teachers who taught from the Bible, each one instructing from a different chapter. Those in the room experienced a broad range of emotions and found themselves reflecting upon all that they heard. Some had feelings of conviction for the way they were living their lives. Others, despite the horrible circumstances they had recently been through, discovered hope and joy. Many more received God's counsel on how to handle difficulties in a marriage, strife with friends, or how to be light in a dark world.

After the gathering, they enjoyed a time of breaking bread, discussing the Scriptures they had just heard, praying for one another and rejoicing, knowing that they all had just met with God. The Lord has opened up opportunities like this across the Middle East for The Joshua Fund to assist local pastors and church leaders by providing solid biblical teaching that brings refreshment to the soul, training in godly living, promoting discipleship, and providing counseling to those who have suffered traumatic life circumstances. Your gifts have made it possible to visit, encourage, and equip the saints for the work of the ministry. (Ephesians 4:12)

A HEART TO SERVE REFUGEES

As victims of the largest humanitarian crisis since World War II, Syrian families cross their nation's border each day, searching for a safer place from the ongoing violence. More than one-quarter of Lebanon's population consists of Syrian refugees. Since the influx of Syrian refugees, and as more people are looking for work, local farming communities and desperately needy refugee populations in neighboring nations are struggling to financially survive. Of course, the Syrian refugees are the most vulnerable. Imagine having to flee your war torn country, having lost loved ones and all your life savings, and now having to feed and care for your family. The Joshua Fund is most thankful for the opportunity to fund like-minded ministry partners, who provide food, Bibles and Christian literature to nearly 2,600 refugee families in order to help them start a new life with Christ. We are extremely grateful, to you, our partners, for continuing to generously support this work, which allows The Joshua Fund to directly finance the care of 300 Syrian and 300 Iraqi refugee families. Your Christ-like compassionate heart for those who are suffering enables us to help move people from despair to hope and to help them realize that our ultimate hope is in Christ and Christ alone.





38,400

NUMBER OF FOOD PACKS
DISTRIBUTED IN 2015

DISTRIBUTION CENTER NETWORK HELPS LOCAL BELIEVERS CARE FOR NEEDY

We share the love of God by first showing the love of God. Since our founding in 2006, The Joshua Fund has invested millions of dollars in helping care for Holocaust survivors, the elderly, single mothers, the homeless, widows, orphans, those with substance addictions and other poor and needy people through community Distribution Centers (DCs). In partnership with local Jewish and Arab congregations and other ministries, we use a significant portion of your gifts to order, stock, and provide food monthly to more than 3,170 families through 14 DCs located throughout Israel. The food is then provided through these DCs or, in some cases, by home delivery, to assist the poor and needy in the name of Jesus.

The DCs are located in communities across the Land where local volunteers can distribute key food and household items monthly to those in need. An added blessing gives local believers the opportunity to minister in a personal way within their local communities.



2015 JOSHUA FUND PRAYER & VISION TOUR

It is hard to describe what a profound spiritual effect a journey to the Land of Israel can have on you and your family. You may have heard others say God's Word seemed to "come alive" in a new way when they walked where Jesus walked, from the shores of the Galilee to the Mount of Olives and into the streets of Jerusalem. After visiting the ancient sites and standing in places where our Lord might have stood, it was a profound experience that many participants on The Joshua Fund's 2015 Prayer and Vision Tour in October said intensified their desire to walk more closely with Jesus Christ. For some that had visited Israel before, it was a great opportunity to deepen their understanding of how powerfully the Lord is moving there. Among the highlights of the October tour: visiting The Joshua Fund warehouse; participating in a practical ministry outreach project to bless the poor and needy; hearing God's Word taught by local pastors and ministry leaders; and studying biblical prophecy with The Joshua Fund Founder and Chairman Joel Rosenberg. Many shared it was a trip like no other. We pray to see you one day in the beautiful Land of Israel.

**"...EACH MONTH WE ARE PRIVILEGED
TO THANK GOD FOR YOU DUE TO YOUR
FAITHFULNESS AND GENEROSITY
THAT YOUR FRIENDSHIP BRINGS TO
OUR WORK. WE PRAY THAT GOD WILL
BLESS AND KEEP YOU IN ALL THE
WORK THAT HE CALLS YOU TO DO."**

[A HUMANITARIAN RELIEF ORGANIZATION
OPERATING IN ISRAEL]

THANK YOU

FOR PARTNERING WITH
US IN THIS WORK

BLESSING POOR AND NEEDY JEWISH AND ARAB FAMILIES IN THE EPICENTER

The Joshua Fund has provided funding and assistance over the past year for the following projects in Israel:

- Passover and Sukkot holiday celebrations and tours of Israel for Holocaust survivors, as well as help in the areas of medications, wheelchairs, prosthetic walking equipment, clothing and minor housing repairs.
- Legal support for those in Israel who are being discriminated against, denied citizenship or persecuted because of their faith in Jesus (Yeshua).
- Christmas outreach events in 2014 in Israel for Arab Muslim men, women and children.
- Assisted in the ongoing operations of a facility in Israel that cares for elderly followers of Jesus (Yeshua).
- Aid for a soup kitchen that helps the needy and vulnerable in Israel.
- Obtained household items for those in need who have recently made Aliyah – Jewish individuals and families relocating back to the Land of Israel and establishing new households, according to Bible prophecies such as Isaiah 49:22.
- Enabled Search and Rescue training to equip local believers for future crisis and emergency situations.

- Radio Bible teaching broadcasts from two locations in the West Bank.
- Relief supplies and support to residents of Gaza were provided late in 2014, including food and necessary items for infant care.
- Funding late in 2014 for a life-saving heart transplant for a young boy from Gaza.

The Joshua Fund has provided funding and assistance over the past year for the following projects in the Neighboring countries:

- Assistance to churches in the Epicenter that are caring for nearly 300 displaced Iraqi families, who fled their homes to escape Christian persecution, including food, Bibles, and daily necessities.
- Provided support for critical medical care for over 30 children – all from Arab families – who received life-saving heart surgeries.
- Made available humanitarian relief, trauma counseling and medical aid to Iraqi, Arab, Nubian and Yazidi communities.
- Scholarships for refugee children to receive Christian training and education.





**“THANK YOU FOR CONTINUING
TO BE A BLESSING TO THE
BODY HERE IN THE LAND.”**

[AN ISRAELI PASTOR]

EQUIPPING AND ENCOURAGING PASTORS AND MINISTRY LEADERS IN THE EPICENTER

The Joshua Fund has provided funding and assistance over the past year for the following projects in Israel:

- Distribution of hundreds of Hebrew language audio Bibles throughout Israel.
- Support and encouragement for staff at a key Bible college in Israel that established an online curriculum to deliver new courses and developed Internet radio programming for Bible teaching and music.
- Support of numerous ministries in Israel involved with prison visitation, as well as the printing of ministry materials, Bible studies, and discipleship programs.
- Ongoing ministry efforts in Arab villages throughout Israel, including efforts to connect with Bedouin communities.
- Gatherings for young adult Jewish and Arab believers for a time of refreshment and encouragement in worship, fellowship and Bible study.



The Joshua Fund has provided funding and assistance over the past year for the following projects in the Neighboring countries:

- Discipleship training for approximately 3,000 young men and women in Egypt over a three-year period.
- Financial support of trusted Christian ministry workers throughout the Epicenter, including Lebanon, Jordan, northern Iraq, Egypt and Syria.
- Distribution of thousands of Bibles.
- Funded Bible teaching programs that were broadcast on several radio stations in various regions of the Epicenter.
- Relief and assistance to families of the 21 Egyptian Christians who were martyred in Libya.
- Assistance to Christian coffee shops/bookstores throughout the Epicenter, including one serving refugees along the Syrian border.
- Bible Study and discipleship for men in refugee camps in Lebanon.

**EDUCATING AND MOBILIZING CHRISTIANS
AROUND THE WORLD TO BLESS ISRAEL
AND HER NEIGHBORS IN THE NAME OF
JESUS, ACCORDING TO GENESIS 12:1-3**

Key Education efforts over the past year included:

- Posted seminar and conference messages from our Founder on JoshuaFund.com to increase understanding and awareness of the biblical parallels to the ever-changing conditions in Israel and the surrounding nations.
- Kept believers informed through prayer updates from our Founder for JoshuaFund.com regarding the terrorist infiltration in the neighboring nations and how to intercede for people who have fled their homes and are living as refugees.
- Posted short Bible-teaching videos on a bi-monthly basis on JoshuaFund.com to help Christians around the world better understand the needs in the Middle East and how they can help.
- Published newsletters highlighting answered prayers and stories of how God is moving in the Epicenter.

The Joshua Fund's "Prayer & Vision Tour" included service projects that blessed over 1,000 poor and needy Israeli and Arab families with household and food items, along with teaching from our Founder, Joel C. Rosenberg.



OF OUR EXPENSES
GO DIRECTLY
TO OUR MINISTRY
PROGRAMS

PARTNER WITH US

If you would like to make a contribution to the ongoing work of The Joshua Fund, you may donate online or make your check payable to "The Joshua Fund" and mail to the address provided. For more information about The Joshua Fund's finances, please visit www.joshuafund.com.

Mail: P.O. Box 2589 Monument, CO 80132-2589

Web: joshuafund.com

Phone: (703) 860-0166



The Joshua Fund is a member of the ECFA, the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. All contributions are tax deductible in the USA. If The Joshua Fund is successful in raising our financial goal for a specific project for which you have designated your donations, all excess funds for that project will be applied to related projects or to the general fund of The Joshua Fund.

"THANK YOU FOR STANDING WITH US SO FAITHFULLY DURING THIS CHALLENGING TIME. BY HIS GRACE AND WITH YOUR LOVING AND SACRIFICIAL HELP, WE HAVE HELPED TOUCH MANY LIVES IN THE EPICENTER WITH GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY."

JOEL C. ROSENBERG / Founder and Chairman



P.O. Box 3468 McLean, VA 22103

(703) 860-0166 • joshuafund.com

Some of the pictures contained are for illustrative purposes only to represent culture and regions served.