



CJF Ministries

Ministry Update

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SHALOM

I pray you are well and are having a fruitful and refreshing summer!

Online Bible Courses for Immigrants

Thank you for your prayers for the students in the Spring course on Worship in the Bible. I praise God for the great opportunity to teach Scriptural truth to a mixed group of 32 students. Some are not yet believers; some are Christ followers eager to be equipped for ministry; and some identify as Christian but do not sound like born-again believers. I'm planning to teach another course in the Fall, on the Book of Numbers, and will likely have many of the same students. Please continue to pray over this endeavor, that the unbelievers will be impacted for eternity with Christ and that the believers will grow in their faith.

At the end of the last course, one student who is not yet a believer said this, "The topic and lectures helped me understand what Christianity is and what it means to be a Christian."

And praise God, one of the believing students sent me an email with this message, "Thank you so much for this course and for all your guidance throughout the semester. It has truly strengthened my understanding of worship and deepened my relationship with God."

Haredi Ministry

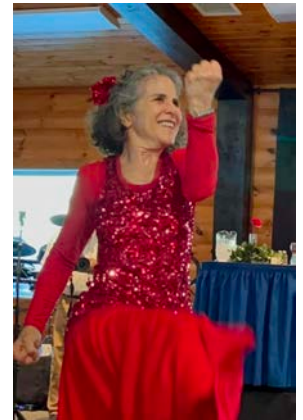
Praise God, we have seen several Haredi-background believers get baptized this year, and others who have expressed a desire for baptism are actively overcoming their own reticence and fears. Please continue to pray for them, that they would follow through with their immersion and that it would truly be a significant step forward in their faith.

Please also pray for those Haredi-background believers who have participated in, or will soon participate in, summer discipleship programs. Pray they develop godly relationships with other believers and that they progress in their spiritual growth.



Camp Shoshanah Ministry

Praise God for the wonderful opportunity to use the gift of dance that He's given me in my ministry. Each summer I've been spending some time at Ariel Ministries' School of Messianic Jewish Studies at Camp Shoshanah. I lead the worship dance, teach workshops, and share dances I've choreographed. Some are solos, such as one I shared this summer, which I choreographed just after my minister husband, Peter, went to be with the Lord nine years ago. It's a dance interpretation of the Lauren Daigle song "Trust in You." I also choreograph dances that include other camp attendees while I'm here. The group pictured below danced to the messianic song "Behold, God is My Salvation" by Stuart Dauerman. The dances are presented as a part of our Friday evening Shabbat services, and are always well received.



Another aspect of my ministry at Camp Shoshanah involves interacting with other attendees and staff. God always gives me opportunities to encourage other believers in their faith. This year, I had a special opportunity: one of the Bible instructors learned that I have done extensive Scripture

memorization. He called me up for a brief interview and recitation before the class. That led a few people to say it inspired them to step up their own Bible memorization. This spiritual discipline has made a tremendous impact on my walk of faith, and I encourage you too to press on in Scripture memorization!

I've been asked how I do it. Here's the short answer: I write the verses on colored index cards and then read them out loud repeatedly. If it's a whole chapter, I work on them all at once rather than waiting until I have one verse done before starting the next. Then I read through the deck, going over each verse a few times. If I'm looking at the card and reading it a few times, I may be able to look away and say it as a whole, or in portions if it's a longer verse. That doesn't mean I'll remember it the next day. But over time, I start to know some of the verses, and I begin to recognize which verse comes next. I'm not in a hurry to have it all memorized. The process itself is highly beneficial, and sooner or later, the memorization is complete. The key word for memorization is repetition! Feel free to reach out to me if you want more pointers or encouragement!

Another Family Update

As promised in the last update letter, here are pictures from my niece's wedding, including the family men. One shows my four children with me, and the other includes their spouses. There's one other exciting development to keep in prayer: My youngest daughter, Simone, is pregnant! Please pray for an uneventful pregnancy, a safe and healthy delivery of the little one, and for Simone.



Unsaved Jewish Woman

Please pray for Naomi, an unsaved Israeli woman with whom God recently gave me a wonderful opportunity to connect. We got to know each other, we discussed Scripture, and I shared my testimony with her. She has heard many other testimonies and has attended many Bible studies through the years, but has not yet opened her heart to Yeshua. Naomi was here in the United States and has since returned to Israel. Please pray that the Lord will help her take that vital step of faith to trust in Yeshua for her salvation.

Upcoming Study and Invitation

In September, I will be teaching through the Book of Philippians in a 5-week Zoom study, and you are invited to join! Philippians is such an encouraging book! Please let me know if you are interested in joining us so I can give you more information and include you when I send out the link.

Thank you

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you (Phil 1:3). I praise God for each and every individual, family, and church that is a part of the prayer and financial underpinning of my ministry. Your prayers and support are the essential ingredients that sustain me in the ministry. Thank you!

Giving online is easy: Go to cjfm.org/diannp and select "Donate." To send a donation, please include a note that your donation is preferenced for Diann Parkas, and mail it to:

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Shalom in our Messiah,
Diann Parkas

