



Chosen People Ministries

Taking the love of the Messiah to Jewish people worldwide since 1894

October 2000



Dear friend in the Messiah,

Shalom from New York City! If you have been getting our *Chosen People* newsletter for some years now, you know that every October we produce an evangelistic publication for you to read and then give to a Jewish friend. I hope you don't mind, but I'm changing the way we do this a little bit this year.

I don't have to tell you about the financial challenges we are facing in our country right now. To be a better steward of the Lord's resources, we decided to cut some expenses this month, so we have not produced a newsletter. But we do want to send evangelistic materials to your Jewish friends! I'll tell you in a moment how we can do this.

Riding a Wave!

Can I tell you a bit of a wild story first?

It has to do with the impact that Gospel literature can have on the hearts and minds of Jewish people. I hope that you will still think well of Chosen People Ministries after hearing the story! So smile and keep reading!

I grew up in a traditional Jewish home in New York City, but I never heard anything about Jesus—at least not anything good! I went to an orthodox synagogue and was taught the Bible—the Old Testament, of course. I believed in God. I loved being Jewish, and most of my friends were Jewish as well. It would have been very hard for a Christian to penetrate the Jewish world that I lived in.

But the Lord outsmarted me every step of the way! I went to college in Connecticut and dropped out after one semester. I left for the West Coast and ended up in San Francisco, where I joined a couple of my Jewish friends from New York City. We built a houseboat and lived a good “hippie” life for a number of months—until the housing inspector came out on his motorboat and condemned our houseboat. And believe me, he should have! It was a shack on barrels that barely floated.

I began searching for “spirituality” at about the time the houseboat



needed to be dismantled. I moved into San Francisco and lived in a commune with a dozen other people. It's amazing to think that probably 75% of these "hippies" were Jewish.

Most of us were interested in various types of religions. Much like Israeli young people today, many of us were into New Age philosophies—and of course the drugs were flowing freely in our little commune. I can see God's hand because I really shouldn't even be alive today. The Lord not only saved me spiritually, but physically as well. I probably would have been dead by the age of 19 had it not been for His grace and mercy in my life.

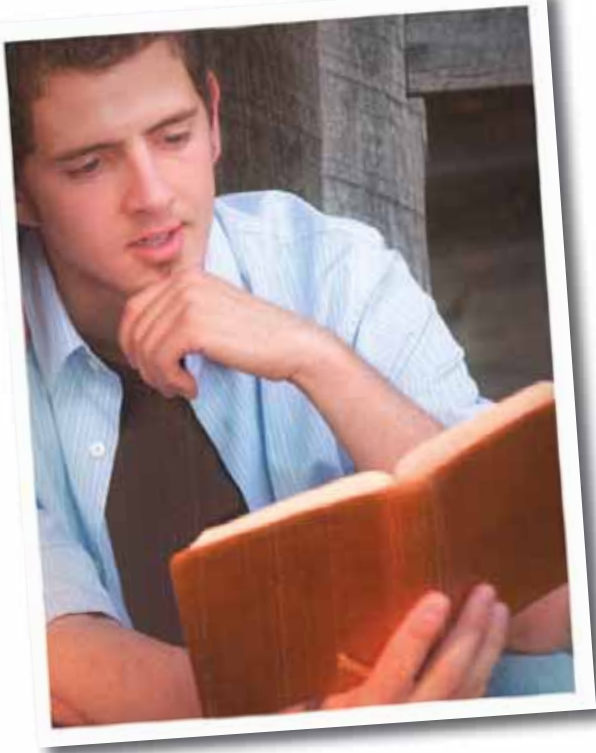
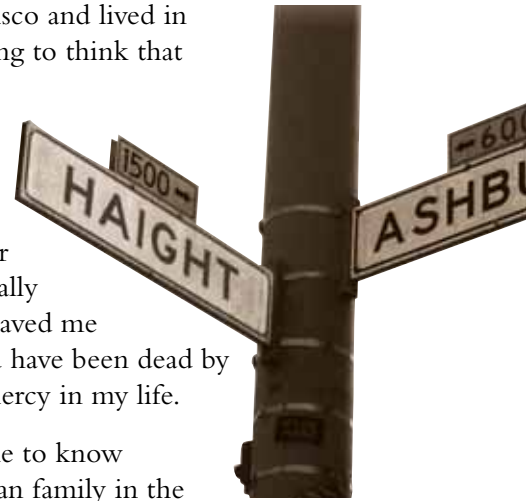
Around this time, my two best Jewish friends came to know the Lord through the witness of a Gentile Christian family in the state of Oregon. This family opened their home to Jewish and Gentile young people traveling through the Pacific Northwest. One by one the Lord led these young people to what we called "the Ranch," and one after another they became believers.

After these two Jewish friends became believers they began to share the Gospel with me. My first response was to tell them that they were crazy—brainwashed by some type of new drug these people in Oregon gave them.

But still, I couldn't help thinking, "How could anybody have the sense of peace and purity of life that my friends now seem to have?"

All my searching for happiness had failed, and I saw that what my friends had was real! I asked God to show me the truth—and that very night, I found a New Testament in a phone booth!

After reading through the New Testament, I realized beyond a shadow of a doubt that Jesus was the Way, the Truth and the Life and that no man, woman, Jew or Gentile could come to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in any other way except through Him.



What an answer to prayer! After reading through the New Testament I realized beyond a shadow of a doubt that Jesus was the Way, the Truth and the Life and that no man, woman, Jew or Gentile could come to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in any other way except through Him.

My life was transformed by the power of God. And thank God, almost 40 years later, he is still transforming me! I love the verse where Paul tells us that we are being changed *from glory to glory* (2 Cor. 3:18). We are *new creations* in the Messiah Jesus (2 Cor. 5:17)! Yet as we grow in the Lord, the changes go deeper and are often more difficult. I think if I had fully understood the depth of my sin and my need for change, it might have been too daunting even to take the first step. God is gracious in "taking His time" as He transforms us into the image of His Son.

He saved me and cleansed me and I am a grateful Jewish man!

Now, if you think that was a wild story—let me tell you an even wilder one!

When I first came to know the Lord, I thought that I was the only Jewish person in the world who believed in Jesus—except for my two best Jewish friends who preceded me in the faith. One day I was sitting on the rocky shore of Sausalito, staring at Alcatraz, when all of a sudden I looked down and there was a piece of paper floating on a wave that I just knew was going to wash up on the shore—right at my feet.

The piece of paper was a Gospel tract, and sure enough, it ended up on the rock where I was sitting! I picked up the waterlogged tract and was able to read it.

Believe it or not, the Northern California director of Chosen People Ministries—which was called the *American Board of Missions to the Jews* at that time—had been distributing this Gospel tract on the other side of the San Francisco Bay. The missionary's name was **Martin Rosen**.

Martin, who is now called Moishe, went on to found our sister ministry, Jews for Jesus.

I could not believe my eyes when I picked up that tract, because it was actually the first tract I had ever seen in my life. I think the name of it was “Kosher Pigs!” Moishe had been distributing these tracts on the UC Berkeley campus, trying to reach some of the young Jewish hippies who were involved in the protest movement.

I read through the tract and smiled. I simply could not believe it—and even to this day I still have a hard time believing that the Lord chose to send that tract across the San Francisco Bay and right to the rock where I was seated. Awesome, isn't it?

The Lord used this waterlogged Gospel pamphlet to get me involved with Chosen People Ministries, and it was Moishe who encouraged me to go to Bible college. I still remember the day that Dr. Daniel Fuchs, the president of Chosen People Ministries, offered me a scholarship to a Bible college. This was my start in ministry!

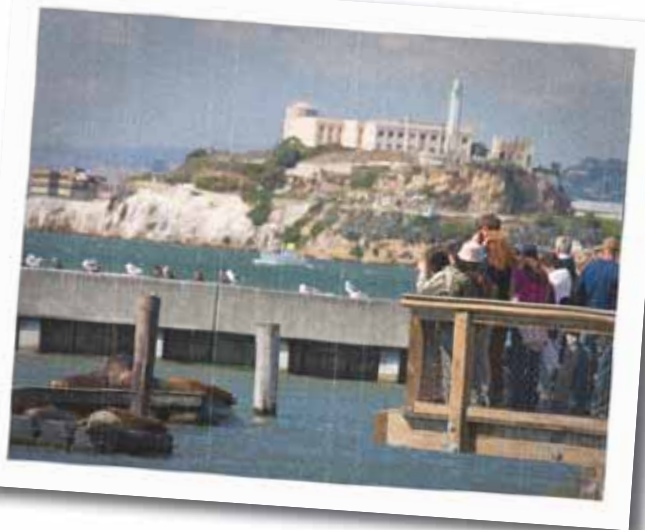
Now, almost four decades later, I am writing to you as the current president of our Mission. The Lord blessed the “risk” Dr. Fuchs took investing in my life. And in a way, my ministry began when I received this pamphlet through that very unusual delivery system!

Is it any wonder that I am enthusiastic about producing high quality literature for Jewish people to read and come to know our wonderful Savior and Messiah, Jesus, whom to know is life eternal?

This is what our 115-year-old ministry is all about! Bringing this message to His chosen people around the world—through tracts and in any way we can—so that the message is heard and understood.

Reaching Your Jewish Friends!

Would you consider sending us the name and address of a Jewish friend who does not yet know the Messiah Jesus? I will send them a letter with my personal testimony and some terrific Gospel literature that will lift up the name of Jesus to them.



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Dear friend, we also need your support this month because times are tough—for all of us! We need to support the missionaries through whose hands the tracts are passed out and through whose lips the Gospel is preached. We need to pay the rent on our Centers and offices so that the missionaries have a place to work and bring people to study the Scriptures. We need funds in order to print the Gospel tracts and booklets that are given out each

week, including **those we hope to send to your Jewish friends.**

Partners with God and with One Another

Thanks again for reading my *wild story*!

What a wonderful reminder to us that we have a sovereign God who is involved in our lives and who knows us and loves us. He is never far away. **He always knows what rock we are sitting on and what we need at every moment.**

This gives me the confidence to go forward in ministry and take some risks like Dr. Fuchs did with me when he gave me that scholarship to Bible college. I know the Lord is leading us and that the Gospel will get to the right person—through the right person—at the right time, because He is the One who prepares hearts.

Please pray for our missionaries who are busy following up new contacts made during the holiday season.

Also, would you please consider supporting the work of our missionaries today? We need your help during this season when so many ministries are struggling financially. Perhaps the Lord will lead you to support Chosen People Ministries regularly. And would you prayerfully consider joining our **Watchmen for Jerusalem** program, which will better facilitate your monthly support? I have enclosed a simple card you can fill out to get started.

Thanks for listening to my story and for sharing our love for the Lord and His chosen people. Once again **a generous gift at this time will make a big difference** in our ability to support our missionaries and ministries and to put wonderful literature into the hands of Jewish people.

May the Messiah Jesus provide for all your needs and fill you with His joy.

Your brother in the Messiah,

Mitch Glaser (a Jewish ex-hippie for Jesus)



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Visit us on the Web at www.chosenpeople.com