

8/02/10 Pastor Hani Sayegh (Akko Israel) Evangelical Baptist Church of Akko

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...I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you.

John 17: 20, 21

When a person is on a path to their death, the thoughts that are closest to their heart are usually what they express. This, Jesus has pronounced for us. That we may be one! Here in Israel, this is the corridor that the Lord has been walking the Arab and Jewish believers down. For too long now we have been weakened by division in the House of God. How much greater need could there be in the days that we are living in, than for us to be standing in the power and strength of being of one mindset, shoulder to shoulder in one accord with each other? This vision has been moving steadily ahead with like minded people like you who are praying for us, visiting us and working with us as we join forces to bring the Gospel of love to all those in Israel.



We recently attended the Back to Jerusalem conference in Jerusalem. This was hosted by Campus Crusade for Christ/Life Agape. There were about 400 people who came from all over the world with hearts dedicated to fulfilling the Great Commission. After four days of Seminars, praise filled worship and an outreach in Jerusalem, we broke into groups that were sent to work with the local Arab churches all over Israel. In all the outreaches for the next week a total of 23,000 packages of the Bible (all in Arabic), a DVD of testimonies, the Jesus movie and a children's book were given out. Many Arab people and Muslims gave their hearts to the Lord right on the spot. There is a great hunger for the truth amongst these people. They know of Jesus but not about His salvation or love.



Following on the heels of the awesome move of God in the foot washing of the Arabic and Jewish Pastors in our last newsletter, God planted in our hearts another special event. This was to bring together the Arabic, Jewish and Russian congregations in Akko for prayer. It was a warm sultry evening as we came together at the lighthouse in the Old City of Akko. There was apprehension in the air because Arabs and Jews, believers or not, do not usually unite together. We started by introducing ourselves. And after a short explanation of the power of coming together as one body, we began to worship. "Everyone understood"! Smiles broke on faces; tears started flowing, followed by the most awe-inspiring, Holy Spirit lead time of prayer. There was much rejoicing, as cries of feeling like walls have come down, and the need to continue this in the future were shared.



We had a few different congregations along with 4 Pastors from South Carolina visit our church. As we toured Israel and worshipped together we started to develop a strong bond with each other. They were some great people. The group performed a few skits that spoke to the hearts of children and adults. After this, Pastor Doyle spoke a powerful message, followed by words of knowledge and encouragement. Thank you guys!



Another wonderful evening was spent worshipping with The Redeemer Praise Team from Alliance Church in Jerusalem. Oh my... I have to say, this group is one on-fire, Holy Spirit filled team. They shook the Heavens and Earth with Glory filled praise to God, after which Pastor Mazen Nasrawi gave a wonderful message. The Spirit was moving as many of the believers experienced God in a new way while Pastor Mazen, Simeon, Pastor Jack Sara and Pastor Hani prayed for and layed hands on them.

God is bringing together the church in a mighty way. We look forward to what He has in store in the future.

If you would like to see more pictures and videos of these events, please come on over to our web site and take a look: <http://ebca.weebly.com/index.html>

PRAYER POINTS:

- Most importantly: A church in England that has been supporting our church will be discontinuing their support within a year. We are a small church and very much rely on outside support. Please pray that the Lord will raise up new support and that He will pour out blessings on the congregants, moving their hearts to tithe
- Please pray for Pastor Hani as he has a meeting on August 12th to decide what shall be done with the old church and bookstore
- Please keep the school, church, and Tour company project before you
- Pastor Hani needs wisdom to decide whether or not to do a speaking engagement in Africa
- We need prayer for dealing with the daily issues and difficulties in the church
- Prayer for our congregations retreat/conference which will be held August 15-18th