

2/22/10 Pastor Hani Sayegh Akko, Israel Evangelical Baptist Church of Akko P.O. Box 2626 Akko, Israel 24203, ebc akko@hotmail.com

January started out as any other month, but ended with the salvation of 10 people. This was no doubt with the help of your prayers. In abiding with us in prayer we break down strongholds, soften hearts, open up ears and set the captives free. A couple examples of this: A mother and daughter that were in a Bible study gave their hearts to the Lord. Next was a man that has cancer. He had attended a few home meetings with no noticeable outward response. But little did we know the Lord was softening his heart. January was his month. He accepted the Lord as his Savior. Soon after that he had to go into the hospital for a blood sugar of 500. Pastor Hani and another church member went to visit him. A patient adjacent to him overheard them praying for this man. As it turns out he was open to the Gospel and said that he believed. God honored that prayer and the man was out of the hospital in no time flat and attending the Friday night service. There is a family- the husband and the wife of this family were in a very bad way. One was filled with fear; the other was drinking, cursing and not a nice person to be around. A while back they both came to the Lord. Now fear has been changed to incomprehensible joy, and slavery to sin has been replaced by a life set free and joyful servitude to the Lord. This family lives in a house that is 3 stories high. Relatives live on each floor. There has been such a dramatic conversion in this couple that each of their relatives wanted to know what changed them. Upon finding out that it was because of their belief in Jesus, practically everyone in that 3 story house has now become saved.



Switching gears here, recently we were blessed to attend a conference taught by Bill Hybels. This man, coming from a 25,000 member mega church in Chicago, usually only speaks to large audiences. However this time he felt the Lords leading to come to Nazareth and teach a small group (by his usual standards) of 50 or so Arabic and Jewish Pastors. The theme was, equipping Pastors to equip those under them and learning to develop your own leadership qualities. It was an awesome conference that has the potential to change the lives and ministry of many.

We have a number of pressing prayer points this month. Some that need to be carried over continuously till answered:

- The father of Pastor Hani's wife (Faten) died recently. Please pray for the family.
- Prayer is needed for healing of the man who has cancer.
- March 7 is a meeting with the Minister of the Akko Municipality. The Minister has promised in the past to
 donate land to the church but has been running from this promise. We have the engineers and builders ready
 to volunteer their services but not the enough money for the building. God, please rain down your blessings...
- Pastor Hani's family has outgrown their house. Please pray for God to supply a larger house, one that has room for the family and a room for the various local and international visitors that come to Akko.
- Pastor Hani has only one small car. The pressure is great on him to maneuver the car for family and ministry needs. Please pray for God to supply the funds for a larger vehicle.

There is a need for gifted people to come to teach on family issues and leadership.