

Whatever Happened to Anton?

Some of you have asked about Anton and his family.

Let me take you back a number of months ago. In our March/April 2010 newsletter we reported to you about a young man and his wife, Anton and Sonya who were expecting their first child.

Both Anton and Sonya had been kicked out of their respective homes when they were 13 years old to live on the streets of Tel Aviv. After they met each other they began living together, trying to make a life for themselves.

For sure, this life would include drugs. This took a toll on them and during the intervening years Anton would attempt to end his life on several occasions.

Early in 2010 through our Monday night meal and chapel service which had started not too many months earlier, Anton and Sonya came for something to eat. A relationship was established between them and director Gene. The time came when Anton saw his need of Yeshua the Messiah to be part of his life—if he was going to survive.

We reported in March 2010 how Anton and Sonya had accepted Yeshua into their lives and we reported that they were also expecting their first child. We presented this to you and asked for your help in providing some funding so they could purchase things for the baby.

You responded and your gifts were sent to Gene, who took them shopping. In addition, many of you wrote them a note on a special note card we provided and these were sent to them as well.

The rest of the story -



Here is a picture of Anton, Sonya and little Eva.

And, here is a note from them:

Dear friends,

We are very touched and thankful for your love and help to us, to people that you've never met.

We read your greeting cards and were very touched that you care about us.

Thank you for everything.

Anton, Sonya and Eva.

Gene shares some thoughts regarding Anton and his family:

Dear friends.

What a privilege to do the work God calls us to do. He allowed us to meet Anton and Sonya while they were addicted to drugs. This was through our feeding program in Tel Aviv. There were a few times when Anton had tried to comet suicide, but God kept him alive.

And then about year ago he and Sonya came to our outreach meeting and Anton received the Lord as savior. Not long after this, they wanted to get away from the influence of the street where they lived. They asked me to help and I was driving them away from this area to Anton's mother apartment. It was at this time that Sonya prayed to accept God into her life.

They lived with Anton's parents just out of Tel Aviv. Sonya became pregnant and now they have a baby girl, Eva who is 4month old. They will dedicate Eva to God in a the congregation they are currently attending.

Thank you so very much for the great support that you dear friends gave them through your love and care.

With the money you sent, we bought things they needed for the baby such as: hitter, blender and sterilizer for the baby bottles and other many things for the baby as well

*Again, thank you very much,
May the Lord bless you,
Gene Michaely*

We give the Lord thanks and praise for what He is doing in the lives of the homeless and addicted in Israel. We give Him thanks for allowing us to be a part of seeing lives transformed by His almighty power.

Your participation through prayer and financial support is helping make this happen!

In our next newsletter we will share with you the life and times of Yuri Sorokin, 43 who is currently in our men's transformation program. You will hear him conclude his testimony with, "Today, I share my testimony to help others come to know that they can find freedom in God. Because of Him, nothing is impossible."

Prayer Request: We ask that you keep this ministry much in your prayers over these next couple months as we seek God's leading in the next steps of the ministry. God is answering prayer, He is providing for this work and lives are being transformed. We want to be right where God wants us to be in ministering to the homeless, the drug addicts and the prostitutes in Israel. We want only God's will to be done and His leading in the path we are follow and none other.

Thank you again for your partnership in this growing and vital ministry. May the God of Israel bless you and keep you and give you His abundant peace, Shalom!

George Wehnes
Executive Director

RESCUE Israel

Here is the testimony of one of the men currently in our shelter:

Shalom

My name is Yuri Sorokin. I'm 43 years old, divorced and have two daughters, 22 and 14. I immigrated to Israel at 1992 from Russia. My father was sailor for a long time. He would be gone for up to 6 months at a time. My mother worked occasionally and used alcohol. Alcohol was always a part of our home. My brother and I were forgotten and could do whatever we wanted. I started at an early age to drink and smoke cigarettes. Many times I ran away from home, lived with other teens and robbed drunk men. I would have gone to prison, but I was recruited into the Navy for 3 years.

After demobilization I married and worked on a fishing boat. In 1989 our first daughter was born. In 1992 we immigrated to Israel. I worked on buildings. In 1996 our second daughter was born. I was working and drinking alcohol. My periods of drinking became longer and longer. Many nights I spent with different women.

I found some partners and opened my own company, but I continue to drink more. This led to my going to jail for 3 years. I was released and then back in for another 3 years. In 2003 my wife divorced me. I continued to drink and worked occasionally. I lived at friend's houses then on street or abandoned houses.

When I was a child I heard about God but did not give him much thought until 2006 when one man talked with me on the street. I prayed to God and joined a recovery program in the north, but after while I relapsed. Then some people gave me Gene's phone number. In April 2010 I joined your men's transformation program.

Through much prayer and Bible study I finished the program and started to serve to the others guys in the program. During this time I became convinced that God is the Almighty. Ten years ago, if someone would have told me that I would believe in God and that He could change my