

Dear Friends:

There are some verses in Psalms 113 that I love and am reminded of them, every time I read a testimony from one of the men in our recovery shelter. Verses 7 & 8 read: *He raises the poor from the dust And lifts the needy from the ash heap, To make them sit with princes, With the princes of His people.*

These men, lives transformed by the power of the Lord God Almighty, are taking up places of responsibility in Israeli society. They are re-uniting with families in healing ways, becoming the godly husband and father the Lord has called them to be. They are becoming gainfully employed, contributing to their family, their church and their society.

Your support is helping make this happen. Sergey is currently in our program and you are helping him become the man the Lord is calling him to be.



My name is Sergey. I'm 34 years old. I was born in Russia. Today I am saved by the love and grace of the Lord Yeshua. I want that known right up front.

I was born in a small town in Russia. I grew like thousands other kids after Soviet Union fell apart in an atmosphere of complete chaos. My father was a businessman and mother, engineer by education, was housewife.

Everything was OK until I was 14. My parent divorced. We experience financial problems and economic pressures of a newly formed country. I moved through our education system. In my first year at the University, I was dismissed due to non-attendance. I found myself in the military. This severe change in reality was a shock to me. But I was pretty successful in my military service. I quickly

learned to play on wind-wood instruments and spent a lot of time playing in an Orchestra.

After my military service my future seemed dim to me. We headed to an unknown land, Israel. I had learned about my Jewish ancestry which was strange to me. I was like many others with attitudes of anti-Semitism. However, not to love myself was not in my plans. After pondering this new reality, I eventually allowed my Jewishness to hold some privilege for me. Now I know that God was working with me in my attitude towards my homeland.

It was not long before I dropped to the status of a common Immigrant. I worked hard during the day time but the weekends became reason to drink alcohol. Despite this, I was successful. I graduatee as a System Administrator from a Hi Tech college. I also volunteered for one year in the IDF.

From 1999 to 2005 I worked, studied, and lived a fairly normal life. Then I began to experiment with drugs. It was not long until they began to interfere with my life. I managed to pretty much brake everything I had worked so hard to build. Eventually I lost control and began to steal and rob. It was not long and I found myself in jail.

I went through a one year government recovery program which is very hard by itself. After I completed this program, it was not more than a couple months and I relapsed, back on the street, injecting drugs. This was a nightmare and my addiction was stronger than ever.

I joined a Christian recovery house, not Ohel Avraham. I was not serious and left after a couple months. I came back after a couple weeks. It was then that I met the Lord. This was a great experience. I really began to see the ugliness of the world and experience the love and kindness of the Lord Jesus.

I started to serve Him. My music background was very helpful. I began to understand God's calling in my life. I began to find solutions to my problems in my life. Also, my mom and sister came to Lord.

But, I still had idols in my life. With a good job and a good wage, I was able to buy things I wanted like a new car which was not bad. However, my attitude towards these things led me to relapse again. God needed to destroy the idols in my life and I am very grateful for that.

Now I am in the men's recovery program with Ohel Avraham. The Lord is opening Himself up to me in new ways. I am learning more of Him than I had known before and my relationship with him is more intimate and personal.

Again I find myself with financial problems. However I know the Lord will provide. Also, I have met a young lady who loves the Lord so much and I would like to have her as my wife in the future. I know the Lord provides the best foundation for a marriage.

God is blessing me with fullness in my life I have never known. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to know freedom from my addiction and a relationship with the Lord that I so enjoy. I ask His blessings on those who read this testimony. Let God's peace be with you and may the Lord bless you. Sergey



In our August 2013 newsletter we talked about the problem of the human sex slave trade in Israel and the prostitutes who come into our feeding program. We talked about a lady we call "Jane." We showed a picture of the bruise on her neck from being chained to a dog house for 6 months and talked of the need for a women's program where we can provide help and hope.

The picture to the left was taken in May 2013 in Israel. When Gene told me "Jane's" story, I walked one block from where we were providing a meal and took the picture to the left.

As I watched these women I prayed "Lord, help us to offer a place where they can find help and hope and a new life in you."

My heart breaks as I watch the tragedy of prostitution and the human sex slave trade in our world, especially in Israel. Tel Aviv has no shelter for these women where they can experience God's love. We may not be able to solve the problem but we can help one person at a time, like Jane, find help, hope and a new life, transformed by the power of Almighty God, and freed from the bondage of sin and slavery.

This December we will begin the process of identifying and hiring a woman to direct this effort in Israel. We are trusting the Lord to lead us to the right woman and to provide the funding for her salary and the facility where we will house the women in our program.

With the Lord's help and the support from donors, we will see this happen. We look forward to the time when we will hear the testimonies from the women who have been set free with a new lease of life in the power of the Lord.

George Wehnes

George Wehnes
Director
RESCUE Israel

P.S. Help us help them through your support and finding others who will give to help. Thank you