

EXCITING NEWS: We are close to purchasing our own property in Israel for the men's shelter and eventually the women's shelter. On July 25, 2018 the Ohel Avraham board (our Israeli board) met and approved the go ahead for this project.

Some time ago, a group out of Finland gave us \$168,000 towards the purchase of property. Gene, our director in Israel went to work, working with a realtor, found property and started the ball rolling. He has been working with a lawyer to make sure the paperwork is all correct. We have raised an additional \$40,000+, here in the U. S. towards this project.

Gene now has a group of construction people out of Germany and some from the U.S. who are willing to help build additional buildings to those already existing. Gene has a believer who works in construction in Israel who is willing to oversee this work. A business man from Norway is wanting to get involved and help as well.

The LORD God is working things out and moving people and resources into place to make this all happen. *We give HIM all the praise.* Stay tuned for this unfolding story!

Let me introduce you to a ministry that we are working with, Middle East Ministries and it's director Dan Harder from the U.S. They are doing a great work establishing house churches throughout Israel.

The house church movement is alive and well in the Middle East, and around the world. There are thousands of such churches in Egypt and Iran and they are growing. This movement is in Israel—and growing.

I read with interest Isaiah 19:19-25 in which a day is coming that *"In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrians will come to Egypt, and the Egyptians to Assyria and the Egyptians will worship with the Assyrians. In that day Israel will be the third, along with Egypt and Assyria—a blessing in the midst of the earth. For ADONAI-Tzv'ot has blessed, saying: 'Blessed is Egypt My people, and Assyria My handiwork, and Israel My inheritance.'"*(19:23-25) TLV

How all this will come about is in the LORD's hands and we will leave it there. The point I want to make here has to do with Middle East Ministries and our work with the homeless in Israel.



I want to introduce you to Anatoly. He entitles his testimony "the testimony of a former atheist." He is a graduate from our men's recovery program and he now leads one of these home church groups in Israel. The men in our recovery ministry are encouraged to participate in the home churches because discipleship is better done in the small group.

Here is his testimony—I was born in Omsk (Russia) in 1958.

From early childhood I liked sports. In 1975 I finished 10 years of schooling, and in 1979 graduated from the Institute of Physical Education. Then for eighteen years I worked as a boxing coach and physical education teacher at the school.

My parents and my grandparents were unbelievers. I was an atheist and opponent of God. In 1977, we sent our son Dmitri to study in Israel. In 1979, with my wife and daughter, we

moved to Israel. Our whole family fell in love with Israel and today it is our second Motherland.

Later my son Dmitry believed in God and in Jesus Christ. He grew spiritually and became the senior pastor in the community. Later, my daughter also believed and with the whole family they began to attend the meetings of the Living Zion community in Haifa, where my son is serving.

My life was not bad. We bought an apartment and a car. We worked and rested. Many times we went abroad to rest. All was good. Children, grandchildren, work, bank account - everyone was happy with us.

Then trouble crept in unnoticed. I gradually became addicted to alcohol and from 2015 I started drinking almost every day. Several times I tried to stop drinking, but I then I started again. It was getting worse and worse.

In a drunken state, I got into a car accident. Repeatedly I was fired from work. I drank alcohol in the workplace or even before work. I lost the confidence of my wife, respect from my children. My grandchildren saw how grandfather drink alcohol. They did not want to communicate with me.

I knew I was flying into the abyss. But I could not stop and cope with the dependence. My will was suppressed, and the devil took possession of my soul. It was necessary to radically change my life.

Son Dmitri invited me to a course of rehabilitation in the Haifa Center "Victory House". I had a bad temper. I was haughty and was the same alcoholic as the others in the center. But I considered myself more educated, smarter than others and more successful in life.

Most of the center's clients did not have anything. They did not have a home, work, family. I had everything. And so I thought that I was not like them. I did not understand, that I could soon lose it all. If I did not change and did not stop drinking, then I would lose everything.

My sarcasm, arrogance, and pride reflected on the relationship with the team center. In this rehabilitation center, I lived for four months. I was expelled from the center for bad behavior.

But I had come to believe in God and I could not see my life without Him. On the advice of my son, I asked to be taken me to a rehabilitation center in Tel Aviv Jaffa - "Abraham's Tent".

Here I was able to give serious thought to my situation. I worked on myself and on my character. I was grateful for the assistance from all teachers and pastors who worked with us in recovery. I was especially helped by the Director of the Center Gene and the program director Igor.



Anatoly shares at a conference with Igor

During group sessions and individual consultations with Igor, I was able to rethink and understand much more – about my past life and the things I did wrong.

In the Center, I read more of God and Jesus Christ. I opened my heart, and the Holy Spirit entered to my soul. It was here at the Center I was able to recover from my dependency on alcohol and look at the world through sober eyes.

Thanks to God, much has changed in my life. I have a good relationship with my wife, children and grandchildren. I have a job, and on Shabbat I go to a service in the church in the city of Pardes-Khan.

God has led me to establish a home church fellowship in my apartment.

Having recently been placed on disability, I was able to go back to the Tent of Abraham recovery Center. There I volunteered for a month, working with the men in the Center. They have become my family as well.

Thanks to God, peace was restored to my soul and I got peace with God.

Many thanks to all of you who take time, heart, strength and money that we can find healing. Thanks to all those who have helped me to take the path of truth, to strengthen my faith in our Father God and our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen, Anatoly

A Note of Interest: for some time now our newsletter have been translated into German by Silvia, a lady in Switzerland. It is being distributed in parts of Europe. It is also now posted on our website, www.rescueinIsrael.org.

Thanks to each of you—a growing population of people from around the world, your prayers and your support is helping make all this happen. May the LORD bless and keep each of you.



George Wehnes
Executive Director
Rescue In Israel

P.S. We have posted on our website a video for you to watch. It shows interviews with our Israeli staff and with a prostitute who was willing to talk with us. This video is also available to you on request. Just let us know on your response form and we will send you one or more. You may want to give one to a pastor or send one with the matching letter as well. Indicate on your response form your desires along with your gift.

There is lots going on in Israel this summer, especially into the harvest season and the fires being started by Hamas. Please keep Israel in your prayers and that hearts of the Palestinian people would turn to ADONAI.

Again, we are excited with you how the Lord is opening doors for us to purchase our own property.

Cut Here



P O Box 564
Olympia WA 98507-0564
Phone: 360-923-0532
Email: info@rescueisrael.org
Web: www.rescueisrael.org

YES, George, here is my gift to bring blessings to those we serve and whose lives are being transformed by the Lord.

[] \$25.00 [] \$50.00 [] \$100 [] \$250 [] \$500 [] Other _____

Pledge:\$_____ Check #_____

***Email Address:**

Name _____ **Phone #** _____

My prayer requests:



God redeems an atheist

NOTE: See IMPORTANT, feedback responses on the back, including Matching letter and Video requests:

August 2018
Newsletter