

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF ISRAEL

Standing With Israel



IN THE
SPIRIT
of Ruth

"A friend loveth at all times..." – Proverbs 17:17



A Call to Jerusalem

Because Yeshua (Jesus) is central to Christian life and ministry, it is little wonder that the current movement among Christians worldwide is endeavoring to understand better His Jewishness. "For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Yeshua the Messiah."

—1 Corinthians 3:11

Everything the worldwide Church possesses has been given by the Jewish people: faith in Israel's God, salvation through the Jewish Messiah and spiritual knowledge through the Bible. Many are no longer peering through the narrow lens of organized Christianity, but are examining deeper our historical foundation and beginnings. Many Christians are impressed with a new sense of responsibility to gain accurate knowledge which has often not been taught in seminaries, Bible colleges or from pulpits. The foundation of our faith is Yeshua's death, burial and resurrection. Our hearts and lives need to exhibit His love to His own Jewish brethren, which can overcome all barriers. This is the beginning of the Church's true testimony to the Jewish people.

A Personal Invitation to Visit CFI in Jerusalem

Christian Friends of Israel

Christian Friends of Israel (CFI) is an international evangelical para-church ministry legally registered in Israel. The CFI Headquarters is situated in Jerusalem, with Representative offices throughout the world.

CFI takes its name from *Proverbs 17:17* "A friend loveth at all times..." and represents Christian love for the nation of Israel worldwide. Many Christians desire to have a channel to express their love and friendship, and to stand united with Israel according to the commands of the Bible. CFI is a link between the Church in the nations and the Jewish people.

Statement of Purpose

Christian Friends of Israel exists to comfort and to support the people of Israel through practical means; to inform Christians around the world of God's plan for Israel and the Church's responsibility toward the Jewish people, and to make the Jewish people aware of our solidarity with them.

It is sad, but a true fact that the average Jewish person passes through life without even hearing a clear definition of true Christianity, let alone ever having observed an accurate witness. Many Jewish people stereotype Christians because of our past history. Most Christians never have an opportunity to know what the Jewish world is about. CFI staff have a unique opportunity, while living and serving in Israel as channels of blessing for the Church, to use every means available to undo damage that has been done in the name of Christ and the Church.

CFI Jerusalem, along with our Representatives in the nations, has a special call to teach the Church her connection to her Jewish roots. **At CFI, we believe that the Lord Jesus is both Messiah of Israel and Savior of the world; however, our stand alongside the Jewish people is not conditional.**



"...I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit..." (John 15:16)

Ray and Sharon Sanders, International Directors of CFI Jerusalem, have been developing and leading the Ministry in Israel since December 1985. Ray is an ordained minister through Christ for the Nations Bible College and Fellowship of Ministers, Dallas, Texas, and is also a graduate of Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. Sharon is a former legal and judicial secretary and charter member of the President of the United States People to People Program. They both attended Christ for the Nations Bible College.

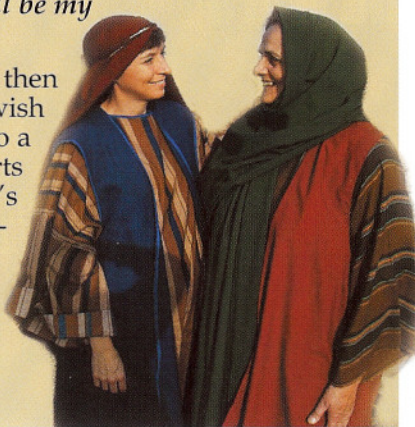
The Sanders, having lived in Israel since 1985, are now permanent residents. *It is the Sanders' sincere desire that the ministry have a heart for the people and bear remaining fruit.* Your prayers for the Directors, staff, and the entire family of CFI Representatives in the nations are deeply appreciated.

MINISTERING IN THE SPIRIT OF RUTH

"I will bless those who bless my people..." — Genesis 12:3

The book of Ruth is a perfect example of what the relationship of the Church (Ruth) should be to Israel (Naomi). Ruth could have taken the way of Orpah (symbolic of the part of the Christian Church which has left Israel to fend for herself). Ruth, however, was bold to proclaim "...Your people shall be my people, your God my God." (Ruth 1:16)

If we truly have a heart for Israel's God, then we will also have a heart of love for the Jewish people. As we begin to walk on the path to a better future for the Church, may our hearts be filled with unconditional love for God's people. Christian Friends of Israel, Jerusalem, is a channel for Christians worldwide ministering in the Spirit of Ruth, and is a blessing to Israel on behalf of churches, ministries and individual households all around the world.



A Call to the Land

PROJECT WALL OF PRAYER

CFI believes that the Land of Israel belongs to the Jewish people, based on our belief that the God of Israel has given them the title deed as a fulfillment of His biblical promise to Abraham and his seed forever. This divine decree to the Jewish people asserts the destiny of this holy ground. The title deed has never been rescinded. "...Unto thy seed will I give this Land..." -Genesis 12:7

Since the early 1990's, CFI's Wall of Prayer Team has been linking Christians around the world with some 1,760 known communities (Jewish, Arab, Druse, Samaritan and Bedouin) in Israel.

Day and night around the world, Christians are praying for every community in this tiny nation. An invisible "Wall of Prayer" has literally been built throughout the world in over 100 countries as the Wall of Prayer Team functions as spiritual bricklayers — connecting Israel with the Church for prayer and intercession.

Through the tireless efforts of these dedicated CFI staff, Israel is carried "on the shoulders of the Church" worldwide. Intercessors on the Wall of Prayer write:

"I appreciate that you gave me to keep in prayer, the village of Kfar Yasif in Galilee. I pray every day at 7:30 p.m. and ask God for blessings on that village and all Israel" (Hungary).

"We are taking our place on the Wall of Prayer and are watchers in the Spirit for the Peace of the Lord, especially for Kfar Bilu... May the Lord give us more of His Agape love for all the people living in Kfar Bilu" (Austria).

PROJECT HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

The Ethiopian Jewish community is an often forgotten group that faces a lot of difficulties adjusting to Israeli society. With the help of Christians around the world, CFI is able to provide financial and practical assistance to needy Ethiopian families, many of whom are unable to meet even the basic needs of their children and households. In addition, CFI contributes financial support towards medical bills of immigrant youth, and supplies children with backpacks filled with school supplies. Project Hope for the Future appreciates your ongoing support.

"For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper." (Psalm 72:12)



Joyce and Carolyn,
Wall of Prayer Team

WOP Field Trips

The Wall of Prayer Team makes field trips to different parts of Israel to gather and research the latest information on Israeli towns and villages. Photographs are also taken for intercessors who are praying specifically for their assigned places. The Lord often shows CFI just how strong His Hand is upon this special ministry. Testimonies abound of supernatural protection and evidence of God's working. In wartime, countless Christians will be carrying this tiny Land "on the wings of prayer." *"For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace... I have set watchmen upon thy walls.... Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the Lord."* (Isaiah 62:1, 6; Ezekiel 13:5)

A Jewish man told us, "One of the greatest gifts you are giving to my people is the Wall of Prayer. We know that when the enemy approaches the Land, prayer will be in place throughout the world." We invite you to be a part of this important tool in the hands of the Lord.



Above: Ethiopian family
Right: Project Coordinator Mondella with backpack

Spreading the Word

"The Lord gave the word; great was the company of those that published it." – Psalm 68:11

Holding forth the Word of God in Israel today is vitally important. Many Israelis seem to be thirsty to drink in and eager to hear the words of the Holy Scriptures. It is for this reason that CFI produces beautiful Scripture Posters containing the Word of God for Israelis from all walks of life. A special Scripture Poster for the Israeli Army has been produced and has been welcomed in army bases all over Israel. CFI staff also present the Scriptures—a pocket-sized book of Psalms—to Israeli soldiers and police officers. The CFI Distribution Center and Bridal Salon give Psalm books and the Ten Commandments to those coming to our doors. Scripture Pocket Cards with God's Word and prayers are being produced to give to soldiers in the army.

Thank you for supporting our efforts to get the Word of the Lord back to the Jewish people.



"...I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there."

—Ezekiel 39:28

A Call to the People

The physical restoration of the Jewish people was promised in the Bible before the spiritual restoration. As believers we are to proclaim Israel's return to the Land. *"Hear the word of the Lord, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, 'He that scattered Israel will gather him...'"* (Jeremiah 31:10)

We also are to prepare the way of the Lord and to remove the stones of stumbling that stand between the Jewish people and their God. *"Go through, go through the gates, prepare ye the way of the people, cast up, cast up the highway, gather out the stones..."* (Isaiah 62:10). The historical Church helped to place these obstacles in Israel's way. It is our responsibility to help remove them. Only through the *healing balm* of the Lord's love can the Jewish heart be mended.

A Tool in the Hands of the Lord

During the Gulf War of 1991, the Lord opened the doors for CFI to begin a unique work among His people. To our knowledge, since the founding of the State of Israel this type of work had not before been accomplished by Christians. The enormous task of immigration has been a great drain on the economy of the nation. Since our doors opened at the CFI Distribution Center for Russian Jewry and those from other oppressed lands, the Center has been a special and inspirational place for Jews from all over Israel to receive help in their first days of returning home.



Regathering to their own Land



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PROJECT OPEN GATE

Many new Russian immigrants dreamed for years that their feet would finally stand within the gates of Jerusalem. Since the early 1990's, millions of immigrants have flooded the gates of Ben Gurion Airport, anticipating how life would be in their new Land. We believe the gates of immigration will remain open as long as God allows. When closed again, Jewish people left behind will be trapped behind the gates of a dark continent. Now is our golden opportunity and the time to favor Zion. What an honor we have been given as the Church to be a blessing to those arriving home in this great restoration of the Jewish people to their homeland.

Springboard and Supplier

CFI ministers in the "heart of Jerusalem" from two adjoining properties that the Lord has given to us for helping His people - at Nos. 2 and 4 Moriah Street - strategically located near Jerusalem's Central Bus Station. New immigrants without automobiles can reach us easily by bus.

Over 200,000 new immigrants have been touched by Christian love. Hundreds of tons of high quality clothing have been received via shipping containers through the Port of Ashdod, by parcel post and by Christian pilgrims bringing donated items with them in their luggage. CFI also supplies other satellite centers within the Land with clothing and finances to run their operational outreaches.

Large Shipments

We would be unable to meet the requirements and needs of the people without the help of our "Large Shipment Coordinators" in the nations. There are special instructions required for sending shipments to the Port of Ashdod. E-mail jay@cfijerusalem.org to obtain the necessary information. Both 20-ft. and 40-ft. containers may be arranged.

New immigrants have many needs when beginning life over in a new Land. Good quality garments, hearing aids, cookware,





ing blessings from the nations

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bedding, food vouchers and other household items are among the assistance CFI provides. However, it is only through the financial help sent us by our supporters in the nations, that we can continue to remain a light, giving generously to the Jewish people.

Many Christians from around the world have played an important role in the restoration of the Jewish people to their Land. *Project Open Gates* is the largest outreach at the CFI Distribution Center, serving thousands of new immigrants who have been in the Land for two years or less.

There is a constant need for high quality clothing for men, women, youth, children and babies. Financial love gifts are vitally important to enable us to be an ongoing expression of God's love and to continue the operation of this unique Center. We invite Christians from the nations to bring their tour groups through the Center to see for themselves what is being done in the name of the Lord. Throughout Israeli society, the word among new immigrants is: "There are Christians near the Central Bus station where you can go for help!" As followers of Jesus you are assisting us to help them see that true believers are their best friends in time of need.

Thank you for participating with us in this vitally important ministry.

HOW YOU CAN HELP: Write for more information on how you can be a blessing. For postal parcels please send only the highest quality garments possible. Clearly label the box on the outside with your return address and the words "USED CLOTHING FOR THE NEEDY IN ISRAEL."

Clothing is needed each month to keep our shelves stocked for the many immigrants that are coming to us.

A shipment of blessings from the nations

Bridal Salon

"...my soul shall be joyful in my God...as a bride adorns herself with her jewels... and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee." -Isaiah 61:10, 62:5

Our Bridal Salon is the "loveliest" area of the Distribution Center. When a bride-to-be enters the Bridal Salon, she gets a heavenly taste of her upcoming special day. Christians in the nations donate beautiful wedding gowns to CFI for prospective brides to borrow for their Wedding Day.



Left: Pam with a beautiful wedding gown in the Bridal Salon

Right: Ethiopian bride-to-be choosing her gown

PROJECT DOORS OF HOPE

CFI's heart for Israel encompasses the poor and the needy from many parts of the Land. Newcomers who have been in Israel for more than two years may apply for help through our *Project Doors of Hope* which serves the poorest of the poor and those going through hard times. This includes pensioners, single parents, widows, orphans, survivors of terror and their families and a host of others who find their way to our door. Word has spread throughout the Land that "Christians are here to help us." Good quality, secondhand clothing, bedding, household linens and food coupons are among the items given to those who come for assistance. English lessons are held twice weekly for interested clients. We also have a Home Visit program for any *Doors of Hope* client who would like us to drop by to see them. Financial assistance



Pam ministering God's love

is given for bills and other pressing needs to those applicants in desperate situations. One touching letter said, "...you are a ray of light in a reality colored darkness. The financial assistance you granted me has literally saved me from being out on the street."

Project Doors of Hope gifts and parcels may be sent to CFI: PO Box 1813, Jerusalem, 91015, ISRAEL.

One hundred percent of all designated gifts are placed in each project fund for distribution to the poor and needy who come to our D.C.



Warm jacket brings smiles

A Heart of Love

PROJECT FORSAKE THEM NOT



Holocaust Team comforting Survivors

The CFI Holocaust Team represents the nations of Canada, England, Finland, the United States, Switzerland, the Netherlands and Russia. They minister to Jewish Holocaust survivors who are the last voices from the ghettos and the death camps. The sounds of cattle cars pulling away from train stations echo fearful voices of loved ones. The stench of the crematoriums fills their nostrils. Scenes of dead bodies continue to haunt their memories.

Tears still flow as survivors share their experiences with the CFI Holocaust Team. The story of each life is recorded in a special

Remembrance Book complete with photographs. Each survivor visited receives a special handmade blanket or quilt sent by Christians in the nations. Also, for those who are in need of material help, a financial gift is given from the CFI Holocaust Fund. Many on small pensions cannot afford to pay monthly bills for medicine. The "healing balm" of God's love is poured upon each wound. Many testimonies of survivors are etched deeply on our hearts. "Yet will I leave a remnant, that ye may have some that shall escape the sword among the nations..." (Ezekiel 6:8)

War Veterans' Events

Another area of outreach touches elderly Jewish Russian war veterans. CFI holds a program twice a year in their honor. God's love is showered upon this group of people, and expressed through singing, the reading of Scripture verses and speeches. Their responses to CFI affirm their need to be remembered. Often hot, worn out and thirsty, they arrive at our front gate. When the veterans leave they ask us, "When is the next event?"



War veteran event march

Events for Survivors

Team members plan special programs to be held during the Jewish festivals of Pesach, Rosh Ha Shanah, Succot, Hanukkah as well as on Holocaust Memorial Day. Many hearts are touched by God's love at each of these special events.

PROJECT CARE PACKAGE

"As birds flying, so will the Lord of Hosts defend Jerusalem..." - Isaiah 31:5



Karen giving care packages

Israel has been preserved through the years because of God's love; however, as in the days of old, God uses ordinary men to help defend the nation. Many young Israelis are not emotionally prepared to face the kind of hatred and terror that is present in Israel today. Therefore, even though CFI does not promote war, we do believe we need to encourage the soldiers of Israel who defend this special country. CFI packs gift parcels for the major Jewish holidays. Each gift package is tied with a Bible Scripture Card and also includes a book of Psalms. Approximately 1000 Israeli soldiers are remembered on these holidays while they are away from home. Each financial gift marked "Care Package" is designated in its entirety for the purchase of the items needed. Some of the bases supported are for "frontline soldiers" and lonely soldiers without families. One soldier told CFI, "My heart tells me this Land is worth fighting for."



Bonita with terror victim receiving book of Psalms and pillow

PROJECT UNDER HIS WINGS

Since the beginning of the 2nd Intifada in September 2000, Israel has seen thousands of her people killed or injured in terror attacks and devastated by suicide bombers.

Project Under His Wings was established to comfort and minister the love of God to fathers and mothers who have lost their children, to young people who have lost their arms and legs, and to children who now have no parents. To explain the trauma and grief these Jewish people are going through, the dictionary would not have adequate words. To collect all of the tears which have and are being shed would overflow an ocean. The team that is ministering to many is privileged to fulfill the biblical command to "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God" (Isaiah 40:1) during these prophetic times. When Jewish people from all walks of life - secular, traditional and Orthodox - say for the first time "We did not know there were Christians like you", it assures us that the Lord is using us to remove stones of stumbling that Christianity's past placed before the Jewish people in the name of the Lord. Only with your help will we be able to make an impact and bring emotional and spiritual encouragement to those who are mourning in Israel today. With your help we can "prepare the way" of the Lord and be His "healing balm" to His own people - the very people who brought Him to us. "Never walk away from someone who deserves help; your hand is God's hand for that person."



Left: Lea with Sharon
Below: Lea in hospital

A Heart for the Nations

Proclaiming His Word and Truth to the Nations

Christian Friends of Israel has National Representatives, Ministry Associates and Bulk Distributors on five continents, who work together with the Jerusalem Office proclaiming God's Word and truth about Israel to the nations. For more information on how to become a Representative please contact CFI at the address below.

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CFI PUBLICATIONS AND RESOURCES

FOR ZION'S SAKE:

A full-color publication, issued quarterly, that will touch the heart about CFI ministry outreach to the Jewish people in Israel. Each issue is built around a theme and includes teaching, stories and testimonies of God's love.

THE INGATHERING:

A quarterly newsletter of the CFI Distribution Center in Jerusalem. Each full-color publication is designed to share the ongoing work at CFI's unique center for new immigrants arriving in Israel.

ISRAEL NEWS DIGEST:

A monthly publication filled with the latest reports and events that happen throughout the month in Israel. Excellent for prayer and intercession.

WATCHMAN'S PRAYER LETTER:

A monthly intercessory prayer letter which is designed to give strategic fuel for prayer. Translated into various languages around the world on different continents.

BIBLE TEACHING VIDEOS:

CFI Jerusalem has produced a number of Bible teaching videos with Lance Lambert, renowned Bible scholar, on subjects relevant to the Body of Messiah and Israel. The CFI ministry video entitled "Standing With Israel/In the Spirit of Ruth" is also available. These videos are excellent for showing to small groups and churches as well as to have in your home library.

CFI Representative Nearest You:

For more information please contact:



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