

The Chosen People

Volume 1, Issue 6, June 1996

Reaching God's Chosen People ...



...one
soul at
a time.



Inside:

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- The Glories Of The Holy Land



How To Train

A Missionary

Time was, says Scott Brown, Area Director for Chosen People Ministries, when the intangibles of being a successful missionary were “caught more than taught.” Most missionaries pretty much made up the job description as they went along ... with highly unpredictable results.

Over time, Chosen People Ministries learned from the trials and errors of its missionaries, and today the 102-year-old ministry is known for producing well-trained men and women doing excellent work on mission fields all over the world.

The secret lies at several levels. One is in the quality of those Chosen People Ministries accepts for mission service. Applicants must be active members of their local church or congregation, with proven evangelistic abilities and a view of biblical doctrines compatible with those of the ministry. Before moving into formal training, each missionary candidate must produce a variety of character references, complete a series of tests and rigorous interviews, and demonstrate a consistent ability to raise financial support.

The training itself can last up to three years, involving a systematic exposure to “globally relevant” information — basic ideas and experiences that are applicable on any mission field, anywhere in the world. Particular emphasis is placed on:

Field Apprenticeships — however strong one’s seminary or Bible school background, it essential to build

on, balance, and enhance that education with up-close exposure to the day-to-day realities of ministry in the field ... interacting with people and dealing with developing situations.

Teamwork — the ministry stresses the importance of selfless cooperation and coordinated service, as studies show that two missionaries working together see dramatically better results than two working alone.

Common Values — effective teamwork between people of varying gifts and temperaments requires a commitment to common goals and values.

Allowance For Failure And Growth — success often comes out of lessons learned and wisdom accumulated through initial mistakes and setbacks.

Although Chosen People Ministries missionaries are trained to make effective use of the media, they cannot just put up billboards and draw 100,000 Jewish people to a mass crusade. Their work must necessarily focus on one-to-one soul-winning and planting congregations ... nourishing and developing all the critical components (spiritual, financial, personal) of those congregations ... and training leaders within them who can one day take the reins themselves.

That kind of discipling is the essence of effective missionary work ... as modeled by the most effective “missionary” of all — Messiah Himself.



Missionaries For All Seasons



by **Sam Nadler**

T Training missionaries was Messiah's idea, not ours. All the great works of those first few missionaries, the apostles, were grounded in their experiences with Yeshua (Jesus). The Gospels are the training program for the book of Acts.

Biblical training, or discipleship, means learning to do God's work in God's way for God's results. The divine game plan is spelled out well in Titus 1:9, where Paul is teaching a young missionary-in-training the key qualities of a Christian leader. Paul says such a leader must be:

"...holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict."

"Holding fast," of course, doesn't mean holding still ... as believers we are called to serve, not sit on our hands. But neither are we called to activity for its own sake — ours is a delicate task, requiring careful thought and well-honed skills.

We are, in effect, heart surgeons, applying the "sword of the Spirit" the way a doctor might wield a scalpel ... and no one wants to put his heart in the hands of a surgeon who doesn't know what he's doing. Our training must be thorough and thoughtful — teaching the proper answers to difficult questions, and the proper character for difficult opportunities.

For instance, a staff member's wife met an unsaved Jewish man who at once began firing questions at her. Ironically, she had just left a seminar on what we call "The Dirty Dozen" — 12 common Jewish objections to the Gospel — and the man's questions covered all 12. She was able not only to defend her faith, but to show the man that the Bible offers genuine Jewish insights to the issues that concerned him.

Stewart Weinisch, an Area Director for Chosen People Ministries, faced a different challenge. He was leading a Messianic Passover seder for Russian Jews in a Brooklyn basement a few years ago when 400 Hassidic Jews appeared outside the door, screaming and telling police that Stewart and others had kidnapped and were torturing Jewish children.

The police quickly found this wasn't true, but some hostile rabbis seized the moment to urge the Jews attending to come with them to a more traditional Passover service. The Jews saw the hateful anger of these rabbis, compared to the kind compassion of Stewart and his staff, and elected to stay where they were. Several made decisions for Messiah that night.

Holding fast the faithful word, grounded in sound doctrine, our missionaries are learning to exhort those who yearn for the saving truth of the Gospel, and to minister loving conviction to those who would oppose that truth.

And God is using them, all over the world, to lead His people, one by one, back to Himself.



Facing

Persecution

“For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.” Romans 8:18

It's interesting to note that Paul wrote those words just before revealing his broken heart for the lost Jewish people. The book of Acts reveals just how much the great apostle — himself a Jewish rabbi — suffered at the hands of his own people, as so many violently rejected the Gospel.

That persecution has never stopped, and it has been a reality for the staff of Chosen People Ministries in every place we have preached and shared for more than a century. Rocks through the windows ... firebombs in the night ... screams and fists and fury almost every day — these were the simple facts of life for early workers in the streets and boroughs of New York.

And as the ministry moved out into the world, the persecution followed. Many of the heroic men and women who were so instrumental in starting Chosen People Ministries missions in Russia vanished during the Revolution there, never to be heard from again.

Their heroism has become the standard, not the exception for this ministry, as Chosen People Ministries' missionaries all over the world continue to

meet a relentless barrage of criticism and accusation and unrelenting hatred with the courageous, forgiving power of God's love.

Sometimes the persecution is still violent — as when a crowd of 400 Hassidic Jews launched a riot at the site of a Chosen People Ministries Passover seder two years ago (see Sam Nadler's article, Page 3). Streetcorner book tables have been flipped over, literature flung about, missionaries cursed and threatened during campus confrontations. Young believers are occasionally kidnapped by their Jewish families, who try to “de-program” them from the “lies” spread by Messianic “cults.”

More often, the persecution takes the form of aggressive prosecution in Jewish newspapers ... “anti-missionary” classes and seminars at Jewish community centers and synagogues ... painful, often lifelong rejection by friends and family.

Yet day-in, day-out, all over the world, our missionaries persist ... heroically taking their stands ... making their rounds ... going about their Father's

business ... standing boldly for the truth of the Messiah ... seeing that truth take hold in seeking hearts in spite of — and sometimes through — those who would seek to destroy it.

Kidnapped

Chosen People Ministries Area Director Scott Brown tells of a young woman in his congregation, the daughter of a local synagogue president, whose parents had her abducted by a de-programmer.

The move backfired. The young woman emerged from her ordeal more convinced than ever that Yeshua was the Messiah. Scott says that is often the case when true faith meets persecution.

“I think it was Ebby Marzel who said that, ‘If it’s just a flicker, a breeze will blow it out,’” he says, “but if it’s a raging fire ... a hurricane, a storm, a holocaust will only make it burn brighter.”

Disowned

Chosen People Ministries worker Irving Salzman faced persecution from the beginning.

“My first rejection was from my own immediate family,” he says. “My grandmother, from the day she found out I was a believer, never spoke to me for the rest of her life.” His uncles heckled him, looked disgusted, and left the room when he walked in. His father threatened to have nothing more to do with him.

Irving says he found comfort in John 6:66 ... a passage that tells how many of Yeshua’s disciples, upon hearing the hard truth of His words, turned and walked away. When the Messiah turned to the 12 to

ask if they, too, would leave Him, Peter answered, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

“I realized,” Irving says, “that no earthly rejection or earthly price I could pay would detract from the fact that Yeshua really did have the words of eternal life.”

Confronted

Irving Salzman also tells of a Jewish believer friend who saw a sign in the streets of Jerusalem advertising an anti-missionary seminar that evening on “How To Refute The Messianics.” He visited the presentation, where he heard so many things said that were patently untrue that he at length felt compelled to raise his hand and refute some of them.

A young orthodox Jewish man in the crowd leapt to the speaker’s defense, and soon the debate between these two moved out of the meeting hall and into the streets of Jerusalem. The crowd quickly swelled, and the anti-missionary summoned a group of passing Israeli soldiers to silence the believer.

But when the soldiers heard what was happening, they said, “We don’t want to silence him. We want to hear what he has to say.”

Frustrated, the anti-missionary looked up to see an elderly orthodox rabbi, much admired and respected in the community, standing in the crowd, listening. He called on the elder to refute this young heretic.

“I will not,” the old rabbi said, as the crowd gasped in amazement. “Six months ago I, too, became a believer in Yeshua.”

“... Yeshua really did have the words of eternal life.”

See Israel Through Jewish Eyes

It is the land you've read about all your life.

The land of patriarchs and prophets, heroes and apostles. The land Yeshua called His own. A land rich in beauty and blood and history ...

... and for any believer, a land alive with stories and sights and meanings beyond measure.



Dear Chosen People Ministries,

"See, Ma! She's back!" A four-year-old student of mine came into class one day pulling his mother by the hand, stopped and pointed right at me and repeated, "She saw Jesus and now she's back!"

Sums it up for me. The Holy Land. The place where Jesus' ministry took place. It was everything plus more than I ever dreamed it would be. All the historical sites came alive. Scripture is more meaningful now. Our guide did an outstanding job with his knowledge of all the places we saw. Oh, how I love Israel and God's chosen people.

Much love,
Connie Salazar



I am still overflowing with joy. Wouldn't I like to tell the whole world what a trip to Israel is all about.

Several people have asked me about our trip. I have told them that you can give money to your kids for cars, college, or a down payment on a new home or anything else. For me, my children's spiritual life with Christ is more important. (My husband) ... and I chose to give our children a trip to Israel.

Yours in Christ,
Martha N. Pybus



Truly the spiritual pilgrimage of a lifetime! Seeing Israel, the Scriptures, and our precious Messiah through Jewish eyes is a must for every serious believer. You will be blessed by discovering the Jewish roots of your faith. If you want a deeper and more intimate relationship with your Lord, as well as an accurate account of His life — as Rabbi Yeshua — this is the tour!

In His love,
Jenna Weikel



The 1997 "See Israel Through Jewish Eyes" Tour

This same tour that has made such a tremendous, life-changing impact in the lives of so many is now available to you. The next "See Israel Through Jewish Eyes" Tour is scheduled for Monday, March 3 - Wednesday, March 12, 1997. The package price is \$2,145 per person. A deposit of \$100 per person is required.

If you register before August 31, there'll be a **\$50 discount**. If you register a group of 10 or more, each one will receive an additional **\$50 discount**. (Register your group of 10 or more early and receive a **\$100 discount** per person!)

The Details

- Please send me a free color brochure with more details on the tour.
- Enclosed is \$_____ for _____ deposits
- Make deposits payable to: Holyland Workshops

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NEWS BRIEFS

TORONTO, Canada — An 81-year-old Holocaust survivor has finally found the promised Messiah of Israel. Elsie was a young woman when some Dutch friends helped her and her family slip out of Berlin more than half a century ago. She settled in Israel, and was on hand for the birth of the new Jewish state in 1948.

A young friend who had been sharing the Gospel with her invited Chosen People Ministries missionary Carole Bahm to visit Elsie. The visit led to a lengthy discussion of Old Testament prophecies fulfilled in the life of Yeshua. As the discussion came to a close, Carole asked if Elsie would like to receive Yeshua as her Messiah.

"Yes!" Elsie shouted.

Pray for this woman whose future is now as rich as her history.

KFAR SABA, Israel — A recent outreach concert by a volunteer group of gifted Russian musicians drew nearly 75 visitors, who listened as the musicians shared their faith. Also, three Jewish people gave their hearts to Messiah during services at Chosen People Ministries' Beit Sar Shalom congregation. Please pray for Artion, Valentina and Yulia as they grow in their newfound faith.

PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania — Three more members of a northeast Philadelphia Bible study recently prayed to receive Messiah ... meaning 17 of the 20-25 regular attendees are now believers. Pray for this growing ministry.

Shalom!

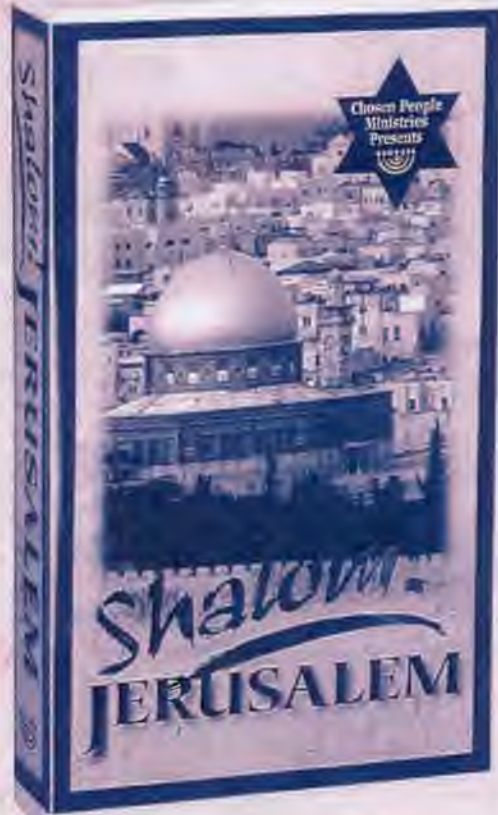
JERUSALEM

Words cannot express the feeling that overwhelms you the first time you gaze across Jerusalem — the city where God chose to place His name.

It is one of the world's most breath-taking spectacles ... and one that comes alive through this remarkable video.

Produced in Jerusalem by Chosen People Ministries and hosted by Sam Nadler, Shalom, Jerusalem traces the history of this ancient city from Bible times to today ... painting an eloquent portrait of God's faithfulness to the nation of Israel and the glorious destiny He has prepared for His people.

This colorful 30-minute video is our gift to you this month for any gift of \$40 or more to help Chosen People Ministries train missionaries for service.



**Yours this month
for any gift of
\$40 or more to
Chosen People
Ministries.**



**Don't miss this
unique opportunity**

to tour the matchless sites of Israel without ever leaving home. Give your generous gift to Chosen People Ministries today — and help us introduce Jewish people all over the world to the true peace of Jerusalem.

The Chosen People Newsletter

Chosen People Ministries has been taking the love of the Messiah to Jewish people worldwide since 1894.

For more information or to receive The Chosen People newsletter by including your gift of \$25 or more, write to Chosen People Ministries 1300 Cross Beam Charlotte, NC 28217
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