

# The Desert Road

January 1, 2006

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The wind outside was howling, spraying the house with sand and dirt, cold air seeping through the walls and windows. The temperature had dropped drastically from the day before. Putting on my warm socks, fleece shirt, a vest and my fleece jacket, I wrapped my scarf around my neck, determined not to be cold. Bracing myself, I pulled back the covers and climbed into bed. Brrrrr! Those sheets are cold! ☺ When you live in a country where central heat is rare, you wear layers inside the house as well as out!

## **News From Israel!**

### **Moved In!**

My first 7 weeks in Israel this trip, I stayed in the bottom floor of a 2 apt. building, with a believer I met last year. When the time came, I moved upstairs with another believer I met at the same time! ☺ Here I have room for an office and invitation to stay as long as the Lord leads. It is so much easier to let the Lord handle all the details and follow Him. He does seem to know more than me and have the best in mind! ☺

### **Online!!!**

Wow! I am finally internet operable!! ☺ For all of you who have been writing and patiently waiting for answers – I am catching up on my work and emails!

### **Unrest – Not Just Arad**

One week ago in Beer Sheva the congregation there was physically attacked by about 500 ultra orthodox. They entered the building, attacking people, threatening children, damaging cars, trashing the place and even pushed the pastor into the baptismal. The police were not able to control the situation that day and it went on for several hours. No one was arrested, but there is video documenting what was done.

What does this mean? Satan is mad! Our prayers for their salvation have been noticed! Praise the Lord! ☺ Keep praying for the salvation of these men and safety for the Believers. Many of the Datim were recognized by neighbors at this meeting and expressed embarrassment for what they were doing. We ask you to storm the Throne Room and bring these men to the knowledge of their Messiah!

### **More Survivors?**

Doors are beginning to open to meet more survivors in several different cities. This is wonderful, exciting news! But it also means I need wisdom of how to proceed. With no private car I am dependent on public transportation for all travel. Please pray for people to come forth who can take on some of the work and coordination. ☺

### **Adoptive Families**

Now that I am internet capable (Yay! ☺) I will be contacting the adoptive families with more and updated information. I have been visiting your survivors and have news

on many of them. To those on the waiting list for survivors – as names and information come in, I will be sending it all your way!

### **Bears!**

Forty-eight small beanbag bears of various colors were delivered from a church in New York this last spring. That was all they could fit in their suitcases. They were so cute – I just knew God had some special use for them.

Two weeks ago I was invited to a free luncheon provided by a restaurant owner for Russian pensioners of the Veterans Club and Leningrad Siege Survivors. I had not previously met any of them. I was informed between 40 and 50 usually attended and there were Holocaust survivors among them. “Perfect!” I thought – I would take the bears.

When my translator and I arrived, I counted 55 people; uh-oh, now what? I put the bag of bears out of sight and waited. After eating, they introduced me as being from Texas and that I am writing a book about the Holocaust Survivors. (A book? Hmm...) I explained the purpose of our ministry and that we wanted to bless and honor them. The director then asked everyone to write whatever he or she could remember from the war so I could use it.

I had previously told the owner of the restaurant that I was bringing the bears and she now informed the director of the group. I felt a moment of panic. The secretary then approached us with a list and told my translator they were going to acknowledge the birthdays of everyone from October, November and December. That was a total of... you guessed it - 48 people!! 😊 I wish you could have seen the ecstatic joy on the faces of these elderly people as they chose the color bear they wanted (red was popular!), smiling and hugging them. One man chose a pinstriped bear to match his pinstriped shirt! 😊 What fun we had handing them out!

I find it so amazing how God knows and cares about the details. “Only” 48 bears fit into the suitcases of friends visiting Israel. They were bears leftover from a church project with no more need for them. But God has a special purpose for even little stuffed bears!!

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God has a purpose for each one of us. In Jeremiah 29:11 God tells us He not only has a plan for our life, but each of our lives has a purpose within His plans. He promises us a future filled with hope. He gives expectations not of our fears, but of our faith. This is a word for all of us, even though it was directed to the Jews who were going to be exiled. In verses 12-14 the Lord declares that His people will return from captivity, from all the nations, and when they seek Him, He will be found!

As the Lord reveals more Holocaust survivors, war veterans and elderly who were there in the Holocaust, but do not ‘qualify’ as Holocaust survivors, I see them returning from many nations. They have been released from physical captivity but are still trapped

in the bondage of life without their Messiah. Won't you join us as we pray they seek Him? They are the brethren of Y'shua and we want to make sure each one receives a "cup of water" in His name (Matt 25:35).

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Please pray and intercede:

1. To find the survivors and elderly the Lord intends for us to meet.
2. The funds to supply their needs as well as my own here in Israel.
3. Believers with a heart to 'adopt' the survivors and elderly Jews. I meet with the Veteran's of Russia here in Arad on January 10 with a chance of having up to 400 names added to our list. We still have a waiting list of 25 adoptive families, so please pray for additional hearts to open to meet the coming need!
4. Individual names of survivors are surfacing in a few other towns as well. Pray for local contacts as we arrange for their adoption.
5. Pray for direction concerning Akko! I have permission to access over 100 names of survivors in that area and will need help.
6. The need for a Hospitality House in Akko is urgent as there are no places for Believers to stay in that area. Please pray for wisdom to proceed and the funding to accomplish this goal.

*Thank you for blessing the people of Israel! (Gen. 12:3) ☺*

In His service,

**Susan Heagy**

*Contributions may be sent to:*

**"Desert Hope International"**, P.O. Box 760183, San Antonio, TX 78245

***Please make checks payable to: "Desert Hope International"***

**(with designation for Survivors, Susan Heagy or Hospitality House) (or)**

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*Desert Hope International* is a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt, faith-based ministry, dedicated to blessing and honoring the Holocaust Survivors and elderly Jews from WWII. (Psalms 68:5&6). We are currently working with those in Israel.

*Desert Hope International* relies solely on the gifts of those who have a heart to continue and expand this work; thus we greatly appreciate your help, prayers and support.

Feel free to pass this newsletter on to other Believers. ☺