

The Desert Road

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Arabic voices rising above the sounds of the city surrounded me in the Turkish market of Akko. In the midst of stone walls and passageways 3,000 to 5,000 years old, vendors were hawking their wares. Weaving between the tables and shops my senses were filled with brilliant colors of oranges, apples and various fruits, pungent smells wafting from white sacks in a spice shop, delicious pastries displayed, beautiful clothes hanging and the sharp odor of fresh fish from the Mediterranean. Women in their Muslim dress juggling packages and children, young men sitting in shops smoking hookahs, an Israeli school group touring and giggling, and old men lounging in chairs silently observing the mass of humanity pushing through the crowded corridor. It was chaotic, but wonderful! ☺

Akko is one of the oldest seaports in the world. The rich history here is still being excavated, already boasting of Alexander the Great, Napoleon, Richard the Lion Hearted, and several Muslim leaders who each had their turn at conquering the city. Set out into the harbor, the Mediterranean Sea is on three sides and the view is fantastic. It is like a hidden pearl, begging to be discovered and explored.

But what the Lord keeps saying to me is what is true. It is not the city, "It's about the people; it's all about the people." Akko is 30% Muslim and 70% Hebrew, but almost 100% in need of Y'shua. The economy is depressed and the people are in need. Here is a contrast to the rest of Israel as the Israelis and Arabs live together in peace. The Believers in this city are crying out to the Lord for salvation and prosperity for their neighbors.

Currently there is no guesthouse in Akko for people to come and visit the city. There is no distribution center to help those who are in need of food, clothing, furniture or shelter. There is, however, much opportunity to bless many people.

In addition, there are a large number of Holocaust Survivors in this area and north in Nahariya. The manager of the Ghetto Fighters Holocaust Museum and the pastor of the local congregation have expressed willingness to assist us in our work. The government of Akko is also open to helping. I have been offered the list of all the Survivor names to begin the visitation and adoption. There are open doors waiting for us to walk through and bless the people.

Only one thing is needed to accomplish that, and it is the funding for the House and daily expenses. Can I ask you to pray for this need? Maybe the Lord is putting on your heart to give something or maybe He just wants you to intercede for the needed funds. Whatever the Lord speaks to you, we need your help and participation. Please pray so we may begin the harvest!

News from Israel:

1. Thank you for praying for the little foster girl in Arad. All of us would have preferred she be placed in a Believer family, but many of us feel a spiritual release about it. We do not understand God's ways, but I am certain He will keep His hand upon her. After meeting the family it was found they are not Ultra-orthodox. Please keep this family in prayer. Pray the contact with them will remain open and they will learn more of Y'shua.

2. Happy Anniversary the “*The Desert Road*” newsletter! We are two years old this month! ☺
3. My trip to Akko was wonderful and such a blessing! Thank you for praying! The Believers we met in the area are on fire for their city! We (S., another believer, accompanied me on this trip) stayed five days with a Hungarian Believer who spoke no English! ☺ S. did a great job with the bit of Hebrew she knew. We were thrilled to have the opportunity to attend the local congregation and join the Believers in intercessory prayer for the city.
4. I have gained three more Survivors here in Arad and one in Jerusalem. As I get the additional names I am contacting those who signed up to receive a Survivor to adopt. Thank you for your patience – I expect to be sending names to each one of you very soon! I will also be emailing those families whose Survivors I have already visited.
5. The Israeli Believers in charge of the visitation in Arad met with me and I hope to be meeting with more team members very soon. We are fine-tuning the visitation and training new volunteers. We even have one who will be coming in from Beer Sheva once a week.
6. Sasha, the main Russian translator, has been a tremendous help in my absence. He has accepted the volunteer position of Coordinator for the entire visitation of Survivors in Arad. Please pray for him in this endeavor.
7. I have been blessed to be able to stay with a Believer in Arad for the past six weeks, but it is now time to move on. Please pray for me to make the proper decision concerning where to locate. Akko and Arad are four hours apart by train and bus, so visiting between towns will not be often, but is possible as I would need to keep tabs on.
8. While in Akko I experienced an injury to my lower back. By the time I returned to Arad I was barely able to walk and in great pain. Bed rest, therapy, help of wonderful friends and lots of prayer have me back on my feet again. The pain is not completely gone, but I am up and moving again. In fact, I felt well enough to shop at the shuk (market) today. While there my phone was stolen out of my purse. When I realized it was gone, I immediately began asking the Lord to restore to me what the enemy has stolen. Satan took my time, my peace and now my only source of communication. All of this must mean I am doing something right! Praise the Lord! Keep praying!!!

Thank you for blessing the people of Israel! ☺

In His service,

Susan Heagy

~ Notice the change for donations! ~

ALL donations should now be made out to:

‘Desert Hope International’ with designation for Survivors, Susan Heagy or Hospitality House.

Send to: **Desert Hope International, P.O. Box 760183, San Antonio, TX 78245**

Credit/bank card donation option with Pay Pal on my website
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Feel free to pass this newsletter on to other Believers. ☺