

# ISRAEL'S RESTORATION

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## UNLOCKING *LOVE* WITH JACOB'S KEY

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**TIKKUN  
GLOBAL**

"For the *restoration of all things.*" (Acts 3:21)

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# *A tribute of honor and gratitude.*

From the early days at El Shaddai Congregation in Frederick, Maryland, alongside Asher and Betty Intrater, these dear friends and fellow laborers answered the call of God with faith, courage, and endurance. Long before many of today's initiatives, structures, and global impact existed, they were there—laying foundations, stewarding vision, and serving with humility and perseverance.

Each of them has exemplified a remarkable devotion to ministry, faithfully serving in their respective areas of gifting and responsibility. Through seasons of growth, challenge, and transition, they demonstrated consistency, loyalty, and a sincere love for God's purposes and people. Their lives reflect a quiet strength and a long obedience that has borne much fruit

As of January 1, 2026, the Wallaces and the Splanes completed their roles on our operations team. They remain as dear friends, as well as valued members of the Tikkun Global family. Our shared history, spiritual bonds, and mutual affection will continue for the rest of our lives. What we teach about covenantal relationships, they have lived out.

Bill and Holly, Ken and Lea, your legacy is woven into who we are; and your faithfulness will inspire our team as they move forward. May the Lord richly reward you for all you have sown; and may His grace, peace, and joy abound in the next season of your lives.

We bless you and thank God for who you are.

In Yeshua's love,



Asher and Betty Intrater / Ariel and Vered Blumenthal / Jeremiah and Raquel Smilovici  
Tikkun Global Leadership Team



# UNLOCKING **LOVE** WITH JACOB'S KEY



By **AviTekle**

Love is a force that drives us to act. If it's real love, it doesn't just sit at home; it moves us **to do something** – often practical, such as providing compassionate assistance toward people in need.



Love is also a force put into effect through the spoken word. Words actually matter a great deal. This is a lesson I have learned from my wife, who needs to hear how I feel about her often. Sometimes I think to myself, "Wait, we stood under the wedding canopy 25 years ago – didn't I already tell you how I feel?" But no, I can't just repeat the same lines. I have to come up with something authentic each time because my words build her up.

There is real power in words. We're told that Yeshua "washes" the *kehila* with His words. Can you imagine that? Words can literally cleanse someone's soul and heart.

You know who really understood the power of words? **Jacob**. As Jacob approached the end of his days, he gathered his twelve sons and said, "*I'm going to tell you what will happen with you in the months and years to come.*" Do you get what he was doing? He was telling them, "*I'm going to speak, and what I say will become the reality you live in.*" That's actually the job of a parent – to use our words to create a reality for our kids to inhabit.

Jacob wasn't just predicting the future; he was speaking it into existence. Jacob knew words create reality. Remember when he was young and struggled with his brother Esau over the birthright? I used to wonder why he fought so hard for those words – while his brother considered lentil soup more important. Jacob did everything, even manipulated things, just to possess the words of his father's blessing because he knew the power they held.

Decades later, Jacob's wife Rachel died in childbirth. As she was dying, Rachel named her newborn baby Ben-Oni (Son of my Sorrow). But Jacob, knowing the power of words, said in effect, "*No, no. This boy won't grow up with a name that carries a curse.*" He changed the name to **Benyamin** (Son of the Right Hand). He knew that growing up without a mother would be hard enough; he wasn't going to let his son grow up with an oppressive name. He spoke a blessing over him instead.

**That's love: giving someone a "prophecy" of love through your words.** At the end of Jacob's life, he blessed Benjamin by calling him a "ravenous wolf." It might sound strange, but a wolf is incredibly fast and loyal. He told Benjamin, "*You will conquer in the morning and share plunder with others in the evening.*" I want that for myself – to be able to provide and share with everyone else.

As Yeshua's followers, we want to love with both **actions and speech** (1 John 3:18). God uses words to create. When the Holy Spirit was poured out in Acts 2, what was the first result? The disciples started... speaking (in different tongues)!

Let's use our words to build others up and edify, whereas the enemy uses words to tear down and curse. Just like Jacob canceled Rachel's "curse" regarding the name of their baby with his own words, we can annul the curses spoken over us. Maybe you had a parent who called you "a little devil" when they were angry. Perhaps it affected you, and you started thinking, "*I am a problem.*" But I'm here to tell you: **cancel that**. You are a child of God, not a child of the enemy. If someone spoke something negative over you last year or even long ago, you have the power to cancel it today.

**Continued on page 6** →

# 2025 TESTIMONY



By **Leon Mazin**

*Shalom dear friends in Messiah Yeshua,*

This report is more than a summary of activities — it is a testimony to God's sustaining grace and a sincere expression of gratitude. The Lord carried us. Despite hardship, uncertainty, and ongoing conflict, He enabled us to continue moving forward in faith and obedience.

2025 was exceptionally difficult and emotionally intense. The war continued to intrude into every aspect of life. We faced ongoing threats and attacks from Hamas, Hezbollah, the Houthis, and the intense 12-day war with Iran. Yet in the midst of fear and loss, the miracles of the Lord were visible again and again. Though Israel suffered painful losses, the hand of the Lord was unmistakably present — guarding, strengthening, and sustaining His people.

Many young people from our congregations served in active duty and in the reserves, including members of my own family. Your intercessory prayers were deeply felt and vitally important. From our hearts, we thank you for standing with us before the Lord.

Even in such a challenging year, with determination and faith, we sought to strengthen and increase life within the congregations. We intentionally created space for women's gatherings, men's retreats, and family trips — times to step away from routine, walk together, and earnestly seek the face of the Lord. By God's grace, every one of these gatherings took place and bore good fruit.



Our youth spent three weeks in Norway, where they experienced a powerful and encouraging camp. In addition, by God's mercy, we were able to hold youth and children's camps inside Israel — full of energy, fellowship, growth, and joy. During Passover 2025, we also held a children's camp for ages 4-10. Your prayers surrounded these efforts, and we are truly grateful.

Throughout the year, our music school, Keshet Tzlilim, continued operating as it has since 2009 — providing a strong testimony in our neighborhood. Annual attendance is 120-140 students. In 2025, we held three major concerts, involving not only the children, but also their parents and extended families. This work remains a powerful bridge between the congregations and the wider public, and we thank God for the fruit it continues to bear.



Shavei Zion is no longer one congregation, but three. We are learning to walk together as a network — united in vision, faith, and purpose. At Or Hai and Nezer HaGalil, 2025 was also a year of movement, prayer, and renewed seeking of the Lord.

## **Humanitarian service remains a constant and essential part of our calling. In 2025, our focus included:**

Providing 50-60 food parcels every two weeks to families from CIS countries who come to Israel seeking life-saving medical treatment for their children. These are extremely difficult situations, and every act of support helps families to continue treatment.

Caring for elderly people with disabilities who often have no family able to help them. Each week, we deliver 200-220 hot meals, with double portions, to those in need.

Assisting new immigrants (olim). While the numbers were lower than in 2022, the flow continues, and we are grateful to help every person who turns to us. Word of this available support spreads naturally by word of mouth.

Supporting individuals and families living in poverty, providing approximately 100 meals per week in Haifa and 30-40 meals per week in Nof HaGalil.

Distributing holiday food packages four times a year in Haifa and Nof HaGalil, with 210-230 packages prepared for each holiday.



**We speak blessings of health, strength, and peace over each of you, and we thank God for your faithful partnership.**

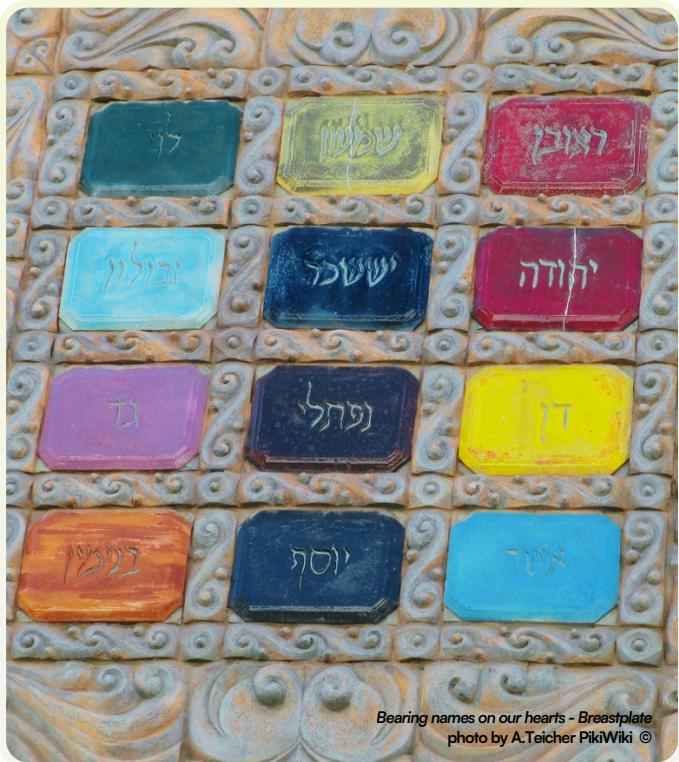
**Return to Zion Network of Congregations and Humanitarian Aid**

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Feb '26

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# BEAR



By **Guy Cohen**

Ezekiel 34 is one of the sharpest and clearest chapters in the Bible concerning leadership.

*“WOE to the shepherds of Israel who have been shepherding themselves. Should not the shepherds shepherd the flock?”*  
(Ezekiel 34:2)

This verse sets forth a simple yet revolutionary truth: **a leader exists for the sake of the people and not the people for the sake of the leader.** Yet the reality described is the opposite.

*“You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool. You slaughter the healthy, but the flock you do not shepherd”*  
(Ezekiel 34:3)

The leaders enjoy the authority, but they do not fulfill their mission. They take for themselves, but they do not give to the people. Therefore, comes the indictment:

*“The weak you have not strengthened, the sick you have not healed, the broken you have not bound up, the strayed you have not brought back, and the lost you have not sought. With force and with cruelty you have ruled over them.”* (Ezekiel 34:4)

This is the complete opposite of the calling of leadership. Leadership is not domination, but caring. The priestly model illuminates the depth of the rebuke. The high priest was not a ruler, but a servant. Over his heart he bore the **breastplate**, with twelve stones representing the twelve tribes. The Torah emphasizes that this bearing of the breastplate is before the Lord and out of continual concern for the people.

*“And Aaron shall **BEAR** the names of the sons of Israel on the breastplate of judgment upon his heart, when he comes into the Holy Place, for a memorial before the **LORD** continually.”*  
(Exodus 28:29)

The high priest bore the people upon his heart – not in order to glorify himself and not in order to take for himself; but in order to stand in prayer, in love, and in responsibility. This is leadership that does not seek gain, but seeks fulfillment of the call. When Ezekiel rebukes the shepherds of Israel, he rebukes them for having forgotten their identity as servant priests. They ceased to bear the people upon their heart and began to carry only themselves.

Yeshua's stance toward the religious leadership of His time is clear. He did not come against the Torah, but against its distortion; against leadership that burdens the people but does not carry them; against leadership that emphasizes outward appearance but neglects justice, mercy, and faithfulness.

*“For they bind heavy burdens and lay them on the shoulders of men, but they themselves are unwilling to move them with even one finger.”* (Matthew 23:4)

In contrast, Yeshua sets forth different leadership.

*“Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”* (Matthew 20:28)

Yeshua is the living fulfillment of the vision of Ezekiel: a shepherd who does not consume the flock, but gives himself for it.

At the close of Ezekiel 34:15, the LORD says: *“I myself will shepherd my flock.. declares the Lord God.”* When human leadership fails, the Holy One Himself rises to be the shepherd. This is both a comfort and a warning.

True leadership is measured not by the power it possesses, but by the love it carries. Not by what it takes, but by what it gives.



Recently we were leaving the congregational building quite late. We were in the car when a young Orthodox Jewish man approached us. He was very heated, very angry, and he confronted me, asking, "Are you a Christian?" I tried to de-escalate the situation and just said, "Be well," and drove off. But later, I looked at our security camera video footage. This man stood at the door of the congregation for half an hour, holding a book and cursing us. I thought, "Wow, this guy is like a Saul of Tarsus." In prayer, we cancelled every curse he proclaimed, and we blessed him in Yeshua's name to repent, come to know the Truth, to know the Messiah, and that his heart would melt from God's love.

Back to Jacob. He wrestled with the Angel of the LORD and said, "I will not let you go until you bless me." What is this blessing composed of? Words. Let's open our hearts to use speech differently.

Let's start this year by filling our hearts like "treasure chests" full of words – words that build and bless. I look at my daughter. When she was born, we spoke things over her that are coming true today. I said she would be a worship leader, and now, she leads worship here at our congregation.

This applies to everyone. Even a husband needs to hear at home: "You're a good man. You're a hero. You're capable. You are succeeding. I believe in you." We have a saying, "A man sent forth on a mission by his wife does not fear death." That's the power of words. Likewise, a husband can "clothe" his wife in beauty that no fashion designer can match, just by how he speaks to her.

Don't underestimate words. I want to change how I talk, to others and to myself, so I can live out what God planned for me. Ephesians 4 says that Yeshua gave gifts to people – a calling, a grace. But often, the key to open that gift is our own words.

So friends, love has two sides: **actions and words**. Both are essential for the reality we want to live in this year.

I ask You, Father, to equip us and fill us. Make us people who truly love one another in word and in deed. I pray, in Yeshua's name, that You would cancel every curse spoken against us. We are Your children. We also ask for Your forgiveness for any word we've spoken to ourselves or others that wasn't the truth – words spoken out of raw emotion that carry no life. Fill us with Your words. Fill us with words that carry the power of love and prophecy because You put the power in words to create the reality we live in. In Yeshua's name. Amen.

# JERUSALEM CONGREGATIONAL UPDATE



By **Jonathan Moore**

## Testimony

We had three native Israelis who are not yet believers visit recently. We also had two others referred to us from online inquiries through a dear friend and pastor from Haifa named Stefan. We are so grateful for their work in Kerem El Congregation! It's amazing to reach out to these native Israelis – not as missionaries but as fellow Jews, fellow Israelis, fellow Hebrew speakers, fellow military veterans – and talk eye to eye. May God touch their hearts as we discuss sin, salvation, forgiveness, baptism, and so much more! We are grateful for them and we are grateful for you! Keep praying! Keep supporting!

## Prayer Requests (Please take a moment to pray!)

- Finances
  - Pray for our finances as we ended 2025 with a deficit.
  - Pray for our 2026 budget to be balanced and achievable.
  - Pray for faithful giving by our members that opens blessing from God through monthly overseas partners as well.
- Not-yet Believers
  - Pray for T and H who are young native Israeli women who have not yet made professions of faith, but have enjoyed coming to our Shabbat services.
  - Pray for N, the young man referred to above, who believes in Yeshua but has never been discipled or baptized, to get plugged in and make the next steps.

**“You also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house — a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Messiah Yeshua.” (1 Peter 2:5)**



© Jerusalem outdoor market near our congregational meeting hall - photo by Ivri CCI

## Hype v. Help – Imparting a Spiritual Gift

I once heard a nice statement about congregational growth. It went, “Whatever you attract through hype, you will need to retain with hype.” It was a reminder that congregational life is not a sprint and not a show. Congregational life is supposed to be communal life. Real relationships. Real vulnerability. Real help.

In Ahavat Yeshua, we've been blessed to be the congregational home of amazing worship leaders like Levi and Rebecca Davis (Solu Israel) who oversee all our worship teams. Also, Evan Levine who is one of the most prolific songwriters I've ever met. We also have world-class musicians like David (last name withheld for privacy) and in years past J&J (singer-songwriters), and Chaim (liturgical cantor). We've been blessed with congregational services that are deeply anointed and some might say, exciting! But as exciting as it is to worship God in downtown Jerusalem in Hebrew as Israelis... we don't build through hype.

We are intentionally building deeply connected community dealing with all the issues that are included in the messiness of a fallen world and an enemy who hates us. In home groups and personal counseling we discuss the storms of life, questions of faith, fears, pornography addictions, same sex attraction, child raising, teenager raising, evangelism strategies, etc.

We build on helping one another, not hyping one another. We build on long-term intimacy, not short-term thrills.

## Congregational News

- The new home group in the Armon HaNatziv neighborhood is going great!
- We finished the season of Bar and Bat Mitzvahs! Continue praying for these amazing youth!
- We just held a special thank you meal for all our “Faithful Servants” in the congregation. It was attended by 90 people - amazingly almost everyone is serving!



# REVIVE RECAP



By **Youval Yannay**

We have been through two very difficult years of war, including the battle with Iran (an incredibly tense and traumatic twelve days). These wars wounded the heart of every single person in Israel. Everyone is in need of healing. At the same time, hearts have opened. People are searching for answers. People are looking for something more. And thank the Lord that throughout this last year, He allowed us to provide part of that answer. We see the seeds of God's kingdom being sown into hearts.

The discipleship program that just ended was the best program we've ever had. Young people are giving their lives to the Lord Yeshua. We saw God working in their lives. We saw the blessing.

Therapeutic horseback riding is continuing successfully. Thanks to you, we are funding therapeutic riding here at Yad Hashmona for children with behavioral challenges and difficulties, many as a result of the war. We are seeing wonderful testimonies and healing through God's creation. We believe this is a living expression of James 1:27, "*True religion... is to care for widows and orphans in their distress.*"

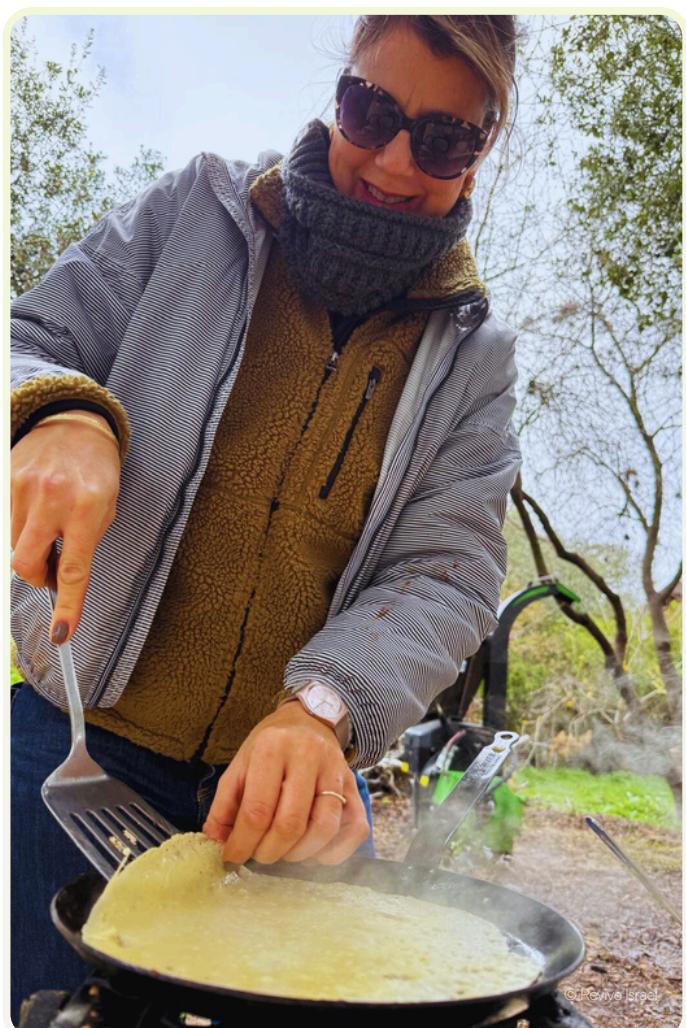
Every week, people come to our "Friday Market" to buy the organic vegetables that we grow on the moshav, and then they stay to hear the Gospel.

In 2026, with one heart, as one family, let's continue to work to change the future of Israel and bring Yeshua straight into the hearts of the people. Thank you for being a part of this transformation through prayers and financial support, without which these things would not happen!

PS Please pray for the next discipleship program scheduled to begin mid spring.



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