

Meeting at:

North Haven Community Center
5003 North Haven Drive NW
Calgary, AB
Every Sunday – Service at 10:15am

Contact:

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Notes

ISIS Fighter Who Enjoyed Killing Christians Dreams of Jesus



An ISIS fighter who says he "enjoyed killing Christians" has told missionaries that he has been having dreams of a man in white. The man told him, "You are killing my people." Before the fighter murdered one Christian, the believer said, "I know you will kill me, but I give to you my Bible." He killed the Christian, then took his Bible and began to read it. Jesus appeared to him again, calling him to become a Christian. Now the man is asking missionaries how he can become a follower of Christ and be disciplined.

Muslims the world over are having such dreams of Jesus. God is miraculously at work around the world—missionaries are reporting record numbers of conversions within Buddhist and Hindu cultures as well. And the Spirit is also working dramatically among the Jewish people.

I returned last week from leading another pilgrimage to Israel. I love the Jewish people and their land, and rejoice to learn from missionaries that more Jews have come to Christ in the last 20 years than in the previous 20 centuries. Many are "Messianic Jews"—they remain within their Jewish traditions, but follow Jesus as their Messiah and Lord. Their numbers don't show up on Christian church rolls, but are growing around the world.

"I Met Messiah" is a website dedicated to sharing their stories through video testimony. One man tells of his brother's miraculous healing and conversion experience, then explains: "It was so apparent to me that this was a God thing . . . that I said, 'Whatever this is, I have to have it.'" He came to Christ and later pioneered a messianic synagogue.

Another describes the anti-Semitism she experienced as a teenager during World War II, which led her into absolute self-reliance. She got a job in Hollywood, working with the greatest stars of the day, but there was a deep emptiness in her soul. She then became a teacher. A student's paper on virtue especially impressed her, so she asked to meet with him. The student explained that Jesus had changed his life. She "wanted to be part of whatever he was part of," and came to church with him. There she encountered "the nicest people I ever met," and came to trust their Lord as hers.

Another convert admits, "I thought Christians were idiots. . . . I didn't know any, but I'd seen them on television and in the movies. So I knew what they were like. . . . It was the Christians who killed the Jews in the Holocaust." Then he was robbed while sleeping in a hostel, and found himself without money or identification of any kind. He waited to see if God would show mercy on him, which is exactly what happened.

The man met a young woman who was a committed Christian. She offered to buy him lunch, and told him the story of the Jewish Messiah. He says that the gospel "naturally flowed from her being." Wanting to know more, he began to read Scripture and pray. Eventually he came to accept Jesus' suffering and his life was transformed.

Have you prayed today for more Muslims and Jews to meet Jesus? Have you asked God to help you make Muslim and Jewish friends where you live? Will you share with them the grace that someone shared with you?

Ralph Waldo Emerson noted, "You cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late." Scripture declares, "Now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2). The good news is also urgent news. Is it so for you? (Read more at www.denisonforum.org)

Work: Because It's About So Much More Than A Paycheck

Juan had been at his new job for 3 months when he stopped in the cafeteria at his office building to grab a soda from the vending machine. He struck up a conversation with one of the employees who served his lunch each day and who was on break. When Juan began to coordinate his daily caffeine craving with Kenneth's break time, the two men began to develop a friendship.

As they shared their lives, Juan learned that, with a new baby in the house, Kenneth and his wife now needed a bed for their two-year-old. Kenneth had been searching at garage sales and second-hand stores on the weekends, but after five weeks he hadn't come up with anything. Juan asked Kenneth if he could post the need on his church's listserv, and Kenneth agreed. The very next day Juan was able to hand Kenneth the name, phone number and address of Margie, an older woman in his church with an almost-new child's bed. Kenneth and his wife picked up the bed Saturday morning.

On Monday, Kenneth reported to Juan that his wife, typically quiet and reserved, had thrown her arms around the older woman. Noticing the sign on Kenneth's truck that advertised painting services, Margie ended up hiring Kenneth to paint the entire interior of her home, which she was preparing to sell. Win, win.

In the end, there wasn't anything particularly remarkable about a friendship between Juan and Kenneth. There was simply a willingness to engage, making a once-stranger into a not-stranger.

That's it.

And that's not so hard.

Whether you're a CEO of a Fortune 500 company or a greeter at Walmart, the ones with whom you can build relationships, the ones who are overlooked, might be right under your nose – vacuuming your floors, bossing you around or making your coffee.

Events at Symons Valley

Women's Prayer – Wed @10am

78 Panorama Hills Way NW
403 272 5478

Come and experience 3 messages on the Book of Amos!

Sundays – August 9, 16, and 23 @ 10:15am

North Haven Community Center

Youtube: Symons Valley Full Gospel Church

Justice, Righteousness, God's Care for the Poor, God's View of Sin.

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