

TZEDAKAH MINISTRIES
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Tzedakah Times

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Present and Future of the Ministry



On the first Saturday of June, the **Tzedakah Ministries'** board gathered to discuss the present/future of the ministry. Yes, it was an agenda item for the bi-annual board meeting; however, it was more than just an "agenda item." A great deal of the day was devoted in consideration of the short- and long-term planning of the ministry. And I want to share a little of that planning with you in this newsletter.

First, we affirmed four purposes that I want to share with you briefly. For I believe it is important that this ministry always remain transparent with our friends and supporters:

1. ***Remain focused on the vision of Tzedakah Ministries — "To Equip His Church to Reach His People" (FYI: the large red arrow above is also a hint as to the vision of this ministry)***
2. ***Strategize the present/future of the ministry — the message of Jewish evangelism via this ministry MUST NEVER CHANGE but the methods/means must always be open to change***
3. ***Excellence in ministry is a non-negotiable commitment — we will always strive for excellence in all that we do because we do all for the glory of God***
4. ***Continual bold proclamation of our core tent — we will NEVER soften our language of Jewish evangelism for the sake of funding, popularity, or convenience. We are about Jewish evangelism because it is the first step to world evangelization.***

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To Equip His Church To Reach His People



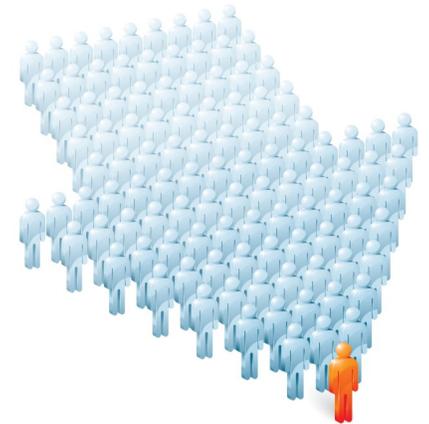
Tzedakah Ministries will always remain a “Mission True” organization regardless ... because it is the right thing to do.



Present and Future... (continued)

I hope you noted closely my statement on the last line of page one — “because it is the first step to world evangelization” — for I hold to all of Romans 1:16 which states “to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” When Jewish people are reached for the Gospel, world evangelization naturally follows. In fact, I wrote about this phenomenal and amazing truth in 2009 for the Evangelical Missiological Society. If we want to reach the world, start with the Jewish people!

This is why **Tzedakah Ministries** will remain why Peter Greer and Chris Horst call a “mission true” ministry. However, you should be asking yourself what is a group that is “mission true” — it is a ministry that **“remain(s) faithful to what they believe God has entrusted them to do. They define what is immutable: their values and purposes, their DNA, their heart and soul.”**



This remaining a **mission true** ministry will continue through **(1)** continuation of equipping churches to know how to reach the Jewish people in their communities via one-on-one training/church meetings; **(2)** continual creation of new evangelistic materials so that churches/Christians can utilize these materials in their sharing of the Gospel of Messiah Jesus; **(3)** ongoing development of the **Explore Messiah...?** for the purpose of reaching out to the Jewish Millennials in a new, exciting way as well as engaging Christian Millennials in the work of Jewish evangelism; **(4)** the annual Day of Prayer outreach for Christians and churches who are seeking ways to involve themselves in Jewish evangelism in a way that they have never considered before; **(5)** writing projects for Christians and churches as well as the Christian academic world so that Jewish evangelism is a present reality; and **(6)** whatever new realities God lays on Tzedakah Ministries’ heart!

FYI — the picture is from my May 2016 PhD graduation experience!
Acts 20:24,

Dr. Amy Downey (Director)

The True Meaning of Freedom

Given that this newsletter will be arriving in your mailbox around the 4th of July, it is only appropriate that at least one article be included around the idea of freedom and liberty. However, you might be surprised by the direction this article takes on freedom and liberty.

I will be forever and eternally grateful that I was born in Farmington, New Mexico, United States of America. I am an American and proud to be one; however, I might surprise as to the ultimate reason for my American pride.

Being born in America to two wonderful parents who had me in church three days after my arrival made the decision

to receive Jesus as my Messiah and Lord on 18 September 1978 at Butler Heights Baptist Church, Lubbock, Texas, easier and more likely. The decision was still mine but being born in a nation such as the United States that allows people to voice their faith openly (at least at this time) creates more opportunity than if I had been more in Germany, Botswana, China, Russia or even Canada. **This is the primary reason why I am proud to be American but proud to be an**

American I am — please do not doubt that truth and/or fact.

However, true freedom and liberty does not revolve around my American citizenship. I could be a USA citizen with an American flag flying from my front porch, apple pie cooling on my window seal, and baseball (Texas Rangers!) playing on my TV set and be the most enslaved, captive, bound individual on the face of this earth. True liberty and freedom is not what flag flies in your country but whether the blood of Jesus has touched your life.

Yes, the cross is scandalous to the Jewish people. Yes, the cross has been used in the



Our only hope is a scandal...

past by “false Christians” as a battering ram against the Jewish people rather than the promise of eternity for them. **However, it is only the cross that gives one the hope for real liberty and freedom to anyone and everyone — whether they call their home America, Russia, Iraq, Australia, England, or even Jerusalem, Israel.** (John 8:30-36)

True liberty and freedom is not what flag flies in your country but whether the blood of Jesus has touched your life.



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Volunteers Needed...

Tzedakah Ministries is pleased to announce that we are now accepting applications for people who believe they are called to volunteer with the ministry. Specific areas of need are in the area of administration, proofreading, social media, event coordination, and data entry.

If you believe you could assist the work of Jewish evangelism and Tzedakah Ministries in one of these areas, please contact the ministry and an application will be sent to you ASAP!



Today (Thank You)!

Tzedakah Ministries wants to stop and say, “Today (Thank You)!” Today (Thank You) for being a supporter of the ministry through your prayers, encouragement, and support. Today (Thank You) for having the ministry’s back through the difficult and lean years. Today (Thank You) for praying for me personally when I have struggled with health issues or my mom went through that horrific car accident almost five years ago. Today (Thank You) for praying for the Jewish souls both here in the United States and around the world that I have shared with you either through this newsletter. **Today (Thank You)!**

Tzedakah Ministries would also like to return this gift that you have given to the ministry back to you. We would like to be able to encourage you as you have us. We also want to be able to pray for you as you have prayed for us. We also want to have your back when you need us. If you ever have needs or concerns, please email info@tzedakahministries.org and they will be taken to God in prayer.

