During the meal at Passover (and I know this is not Passover but give me a second), a question is raised by a child — “Why is this night different than every other night?”

I believe the same question could be asked about this ministry — Tzedakah Ministries. There are many Jewish evangelism ministries who do good work around the world but there is something unique and different about this ministry. It centers around this Vision Statement that we repeat all the time — “To Equip His Church to Reach His People.”

It is not simply a catchy catchphrase. It is our entire focus. This ministry strongly believes in, affirms and values local churches. Why? The Great Commission of Matthew 28 and Acts 1 was for local churches. We will reach the world, beginning with “To the Jew First” (Romans 1:16) through local churches and not outside of local churches.

It is through doctrinally-sound local churches and congregations that new believers will best be discipled. Doctrinal errors can best be caught and corrected at the local level. So how is Tzedakah Ministries different ... we need and believe in YOU!

Dr. Amy Downey
Director/President
Tzedakah Ministries
North to Alaska!

Tzedakah Ministries was blessed to spend some of the most amazing few days of ministry in the 49th state … Alaska. It was a blessing not only because we were able to escape the heat of Texas’ summer for a few days but also because we were able to experience wonderful times with some amazing Christians and churches.

Alaska is home to a wide array of people — transplants from the “Lower 48” to Indigenous tribal groups to Asians and Russians. There are also between 7,000 to 10,000 Alaskan Jews (aka the “Frozen Chosen”). The two largest religious groups are Russian Orthodox and Mormons with more than 70% of Alaskans belonging to the LDS “church.” There is such a large mission field in Alaska and while Tzedakah Ministries indeed was there “To Equip His Church to Reach His People,” we were heartbroken by the overwhelming number of lost people in such a magnificently beautiful state.

Tzedakah Ministries was able to share the message of Jewish evangelism in three churches/congregations in five separate events. We were also able to share Jesus with a lost Israeli woman. It was a wonderful trip that changed me and I hope it made a small dent in Alaska as well. A gloriously beautiful state that truly needs Jesus.
What’s In a Name?

The most common refrain that Tzedakah Ministries hears from Christians and churches who are open to sharing the Gospel with a Jewish person is ... “I don’t know how to do it,” OR “I am afraid of saying the wrong thing at the wrong time in the wrong way.” And despite the fact that we ensure them that the most important thing they can do is plant the seed ... fear is a powerful weapon.

Therefore, Tzedakah Ministries has devoted ourselves to taking fear out of the equation. We know that churches and Messianic congregations that are doctrinally-sound and equipped are the best friends that we have to reach Jewish people with the Gospel. This is the reason why we have devoted ourselves to developing tools for equipping churches in the work of Jewish evangelism.

One of our newest evangelistic tracts can be seen above — “Hello. My Name Is.” The theme of the tract is centered around one simple question that you can see above: What if you actually could know the name of the Messiah?

We acknowledge that knowing someone’s name is invaluable and having someone know your name is personal and intimate. This is the core message of the tract because we can know the Messiah’s name and Jesus the Messiah knows our name. But ... there is more to the tract than meets the eye. For Tzedakah Ministries has attempted to take this message to the next level.

We also created a brief video to go along with the traditional tract. The idea is that a believer in Jesus can hand a friend the message and show them the video at the same time. Go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8o_AdRyziI&t=8s to watch and share. Tzedakah Ministries wants to take the fear out of the equation for Christians and churches because ... WE NEED YOU!

We have also redone our entire web-store to make it more accessible and convenient. The tracts as always are free because the Gospel is free! Go to http://tzedakahministries.org/tzedakah-resources/. The ministry will take donations if you feel directed to do so, but we seek to remove the fear of evangelism, any way possible!
Tzedakah Ministries has some exciting news to share with you! The dissertation that allowed our president to graduate from Liberty University in 2016 with her PhD in Theology/Apologetics will soon be published (scheduled for early 2019) as a book by Wipf & Stock Publishers.

Amy Downey examined in her dissertation how Maimonides, the great Rabbinic Jewish scholar, sought to make it impossible for God to interact with humanity. In essence, Maimonides wanted to create an anti-apologetic for the Incarnation. Amy Downey has sought to create a response to defend Jesus not only for academics but also for pastors and for all people who love Jesus and the Jewish people. More information to come!

Equipping Churches ... Now!

By now, you will have recognized that this edition of Tzedakah Times has been about you the Christians and churches — the heartbeat of Jewish evangelism. Tzedakah Ministries cannot do the work we do without you. No Jewish mission organization can. For you are responsible for more Jewish people coming to faith in Jesus than any “professional missionary.”

THANK YOU for your service. THANK YOU for caring. Please let us help you by scheduling a time when we can come to you with more tools and resources! Contact us today by phone at 972-977-2389 or by email at infozedakahministries.org.