

EST. 1887

SHARING GOD'S HEART FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE

Why Choose LIFE?

"People are Kingdom resources, and the King gets to assign them where He wishes." This sums up our philosophy of recruiting at Life in Messiah (LIFE for short). Our desire is to know and do God's will and help others do the same. Ministry is tough (and some say Jewish ministry is tougher still). We believe longevity in effective service to the King is directly tied to walking in step with the Spirit.

We'd like to tell you we have the best Board, the best leadership team, the best home office team, the best field workers that any ministry has ever had. That would be stretching the truth just a bit – but we are privileged to serve with some wonderful people. They manifest godly character, sacrificial service, a passionate heart for God's glory and the salvation of the Jewish people, steadfastness in persevering under trial, are tenderhearted toward people and uncompromising on truth.

What are the benefits of serving with LIFE? Here are some highlights (see also LIFE Values video).

Clear purpose, biblical vision:

- *"Sharing God's heart for the Jewish people" –* we love doing what is close to God's heart, demonstrating His love to His people as we present Yeshua, Messiah of Israel, Savior of the world.
- "We are committed to seeing God's purpose for the Church fulfilled as Jews and Gentiles are made one through faith in Messiah Jesus by means of evangelism, discipleship, and equipping believers for effective ministry, with the priority 'to the Jew first...'" (see Eph. 2, esp. vs. 8-9, 13-16).

Strong organizational identity:

- History our founder, W.E. Blackstone, is written up positively! in the Encyclopedia Judaica
- Stability
 - in continuous operation since 1887 (America's oldest non-denominational Jewish outreach)
 - financially solid (we "owe no man anything, but to love one another")
- Integrity
 - members of Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) and Missio Nexus (missionexus.org). You can call either of these umbrella associations and ask about us.
 doctrinally sound, solid reputation
- Innovation a vision to create, try new things (e.g., developing web-based materials and strategies to reach the ultra-Orthodox in multiple languages; multiplying guest houses to reach Israeli backpackers in South America).

Framework with flexibility:

- Not a cookie cutter approach to ministry, varieties of methodologies and venues
- Clear parameters (Jewish evangelism, discipleship, and equipping as priorities)
- Field-based innovation encouraged entrepreneurial people design their own ministry plan in conjunction with ministry leadership.

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Committed prayer and leadership support:

- Global prayer support we have a solid core of active, engaged intercessors; LifeLines is mailed out bi-monthly, but also is received in weekly doses via email. Want to <u>subscribe</u>?
- Personnel Team dedicated to the well-being, nurture and growth of LIFErs (in all realms).
- Development assist with partnership development (support raising), communications.
 - Our home office team helps our field staff with prayer letters. *The Bridge* helps tell the stories of what God is doing through our workers.
 - Help with partnership development is available.

We are family:

- "Anachnu mishpacha baMashiach" ("We are family in the Messiah") is how we relate to each other.
- Internal communication (our staff connect through WhatsApp for prayer and encouragement).
- Staff Conferences (every four years we come together in person from around the globe).

Shared resources:

- We have some "classic" tracts (e.g., L'Chaim) that have stood the test of time, along with newer material, but the best pieces have yet to be written!
- We have some pretty sharp team members, including some with advanced theological training and facility with the original languages, who delight to mentor newer staff.
- We're developing a sharing ethos with increased interaction by the field staff globally.

Partnering network:

- LIFE enjoys good relationships with other Jewish ministries; we increasingly partner with others within the evangelical family and other Jewish ministries.
- LIFE is an agency member of the Lausanne Consultation on Jewish Evangelism (<u>https://lcje.network/</u>), which hosts annual regional and quadrennial international conferences.

With all the benefits that come with being a part of LIFE, you are wise to consider the downside. Like Yeshua Himself, we don't offer a life of ease and comfort. Surely some assumptions, desires, and expectations will be unmet. You will have to trust God for His supply. And if you grew wealthy serving with LIFE, you'd be the first.

"Whatever God especially loves, Satan especially hates," so you can expect bringing the gospel to God's chosen people will result in spiritual opposition. You can't serve long without something going awry. And that's why it is critically important that you KNOW you are walking in humility, faith and obedience – wherever you land in ministry.

Every decision has consequences, many of them unforeseen. (Only God knows the future – but when He is the One directing our steps, we can trust Him whatever happens.) In every case, we prefer the consequences of obedience to those of disobedience.

The best approach to decision making on the human level is to question, communicate, and seek clarification. And on the divine level, the best approach is to release all our assumptions, desires, and expectations to the Lord. Ask Him to show you what He wants you to do, for His glory. That truly is the path of peace, and there is real joy in that journey. You will never regret anything you sacrifice for the praise of His name.

Trusting God with you, The LIFE Leadership Team