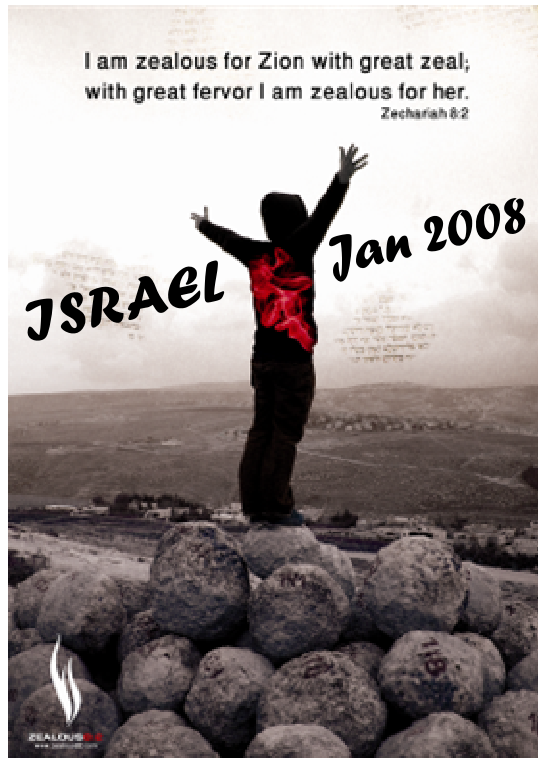


Bridges for peace australia



memories of a life-changing experience



The Zealous tour really brought the Bible to life for me. Ancient names of towns and cities that I had read about came alive, and walking in the footsteps of some of the biblical figures which have been so inspirational for me, added a new dimension to my faith.

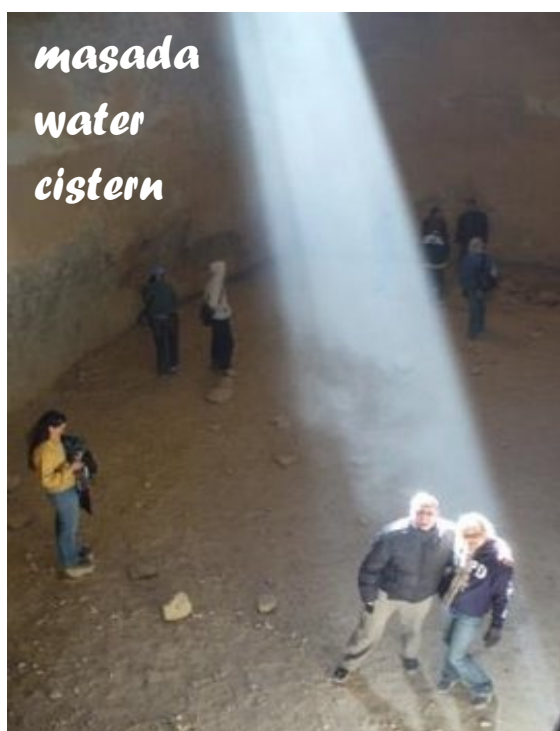
I came to Israel knowing almost nothing about its relevance and role in my daily walk with God. I left Israel with so much more of an understanding of its centrality in my faith and God's plan for humankind. I began to think of Israel's story as my story and because I learnt just how much it matters to God, it now matters to me.

The volunteering segment was one of the most meaningful and rewarding aspects of the tour. It was incredible to be involved in a project that was assisting a family in such a real and tangible way. I'll never forget the gratitude expressed by that family, but more importantly how privileged and humbled I felt that I had this opportunity to bless them.

Katie Selby

All my life I have been told stories about Israel. But now I have lived there, smelt the olive trees, seen the people, eaten the falafel, it's like I never understood how real this place is. And how real God is. Seeing the tomb of Jesus, praying in the desert, boating across the Galilee, walking the streets of Jerusalem. These are things every Christian should do.

For me, it was like, before I went to Israel I loved God, but I wasn't in love with God. Intellectually I wanted to have an awesome prayer life, I wanted to be thirsty for the Bible, I wanted God to radically change my life, build me into a better person, lead me down the path he has planned out for me. But I couldn't get off the ground.



masada water cistern



Something was holding me back (I still don't know what).

Israel has changed all of that. I have fallen in love with God and he is bigger, and scarier and more confusing, more extreme, terrifying and intense than I ever thought he could be. The Bible is actually alive. I have been to the places they are talking about. I have walked on the same soil where prophets walked all those years ago.

God is closer to the earth in Israel than anywhere else in the world. The earth is saturated with so much prayer you can taste it. I just hope that this feeling doesn't fade as Israel becomes a memory. I wouldn't be able to stand going back to being an intellectual Christian, who loves God with his mind and not his heart..... who knows that he should be hungry and bursting and overwhelmed with love but just not feeling it.

Already I can hear the holy land calling me back. I'm sure God plans for me to revisit his country in-between all the other amazing things he has in store for me. I know there is so much more of Israel to experience, and I am already starting to crave falafel.

Rhys Rodgers

If I could sum up why Israel was such an amazing, incredible and unforgettable experience, in one word I think I would say it's because of its RELEVANCE.

Its relevance to the Scriptures and the new light it brings upon them whenever I'm reading them, and because, to our faith, it is a sort of timeless map. We can see where we've come from by looking at its history and ours in our Jewish roots, and where we're going by looking into the prophecies of the coming Kingdom, the new Jerusalem and our Lord's return. But I think, most importantly - where we are.

Personally I was impacted on tour by devotions, sights we saw and the people - I have been able to see things in another, a new perspective. I've received direction and guidance from impressions God gave me for the coming year, and have been able to face up to some strongholds in my life which God and I and some close friends are still dealing with.

I have learned much about God and the significance of His chosen people on tour. It was incredible! Thank you Bridges for Peace SO MUCH FOR THIS WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY!!!

Angus Fowles



getting around



a fine bunch

Before my voyage off to Israel began I didn't know what to expect. I had spoken to many people who had gone to the Holy Land and all had received a revelation of some kind concerning the Jewish people and the strength of God's promises. They described the land as beautiful and powerful.

It raised many questions within myself, and they weren't being answered. I found it confusing because I didn't understand the enthusiasm (zealousness) these people had for Israel and the Jewish people, and I asked WHY? Which is why I can understand the confusion people have, in and outside the church, when it comes to seeing people being called all over the world contributing their lives to Israel and the need of help there.

Once I stepped foot in that land and saw what the Lord revealed to me, my eyes were opened concerning the need of help there and God's relationship with the land and people of Israel. I was told and I do believe that no one goes to Israel by accident or by their own will. My time in Israel was a time of cleansing and self discovery which brought me to complete surrender and obedience to Father God.

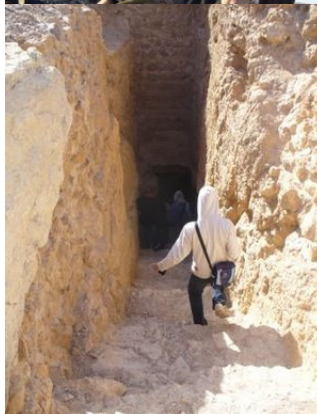
So my conclusion and discovery is that it's all about God and his will, which is a one way street. I want to love what God loves and let his interests become mine. It's an experience that every Christian needs which can't be described but only felt.

I'M NOW ZEALOUS FOR ISRAEL and even more zealous for GOD!

Luke Zanker



next tour 22 june to 5 july 2008





meeting with God



Zealous8:2 is the young adult ministry of Bridges for Peace. Bridges for Peace is a Jerusalem-based, Bible-believing Christian organization supporting Israel and building relationships between Christians and Jews worldwide through education and practical deeds expressing God's love and mercy. Zealous8:2 seeks to serve this vision by reaching and engaging a new generation of believers to understand the role that God has given Israel in His plan and purpose for the world and then give testimony to, by word and action, the same love and mercy that the God of Israel has shown us.

Click on <http://www.bridgesforpeace.com/zealous82/zealousindex.htm> for more on Bridges for Peace young adult ministry

Israel was sooooo awesome! Anyway, this is what God did on tour for me.

I didn't know what to expect when I went to Israel, but God sure met me there! God loves His people endlessly, something that's evident everywhere you look in Israel. Jeremiah 31 is proof of His NEVER-ending, constant faithfulness. Through this trip, especially one night in the Negev desert, God has captivated me. His love is without limits and He is forever with me! There's no way I can deserve or earn this, but He just loves us all regardless! There aren't enough words to describe it. Knowing God's love has changed my whole relationship with Him. He's so real!

To me, Israel is the fulfilment of God's promises. It's His land given to His people for His purpose and NO ONE can change that.

Volunteering gave me a glimpse of the heart of the Jewish people, and why they keep pressing on in the face of incredible hardships. I didn't understand their culture. But meeting and having dinner with an Orthodox Jewish family made me see their love for God, and that everything they do is to honour Him. Such dedication, perseverance and servanthood is an attitude God challenged me about on the trip, and is still challenging me.

And one other tidbit from King of Kings church that has become so real to me: You can have as much or as little of God as you want. He's already given EVERYTHING to you.

Naomi Fuhrmann



**keen to find
out more?
call our
national
office on
1800-000661
or Lauren on
0411-044971**