

How to help, bless and pray for Jews and Israel ¹

There are many ways you can be involved. Ask the Lord what He wants you to do as it relates to accomplishing His purposes; then listen to what He reveals. A good place to begin is with prayer. This eBook is a compilation of many different ideas from many people.

Pray

Be a Watchman on the Wall. Isaiah 62:6–7 (NIV): “I have posted watchmen on your walls, Jerusalem; they will never be silent day or night. You who call on the LORD, give yourselves no rest, and give him no rest till he establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth.” See also Isaiah 52:8 and Jeremiah 31:6–8.

Here are a few ways you can pray:

- God will bring Jews into your life, whether they already know their Messiah or not. Pray for any you know or any that are in your city or state.
- Wisdom on what to say and do and what to not say and not do with Jews in your life.
- Ask the Lord to send workers into the harvest, according to Matthew 9:37–38 (ESV): Jesus said, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” As we saw in book 2, this verse has a different word for prayer, than the one normally used. It means to beg and it is a command God gave his disciples and can be translated, “I command you to beg me.”
- The Jewish people’s salvation. See Isaiah 62:1–7 and Romans 9:1–5; 10:1.
- The peace of Jerusalem. Psalm 122:6 (ESV): “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! May they be secure who love you!”
- Ask God to lead you and show you who to talk to. Learn to hear Him, obey and trust His leading like never before. Always know in your heart God is with you and will give you the words to say. You are not responsible for whether what you say is received. Know that you have done your part as you share the message God gives you; God will do the rest.
- Pray for their protection from persecution.
- Ask God how you can provoke them to jealousy. Romans 11:11 (ESV): “So I ask, did they stumble in order that they might fall? By no means! Rather, through their trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous.”
- Ask God how you can bless Israel and Israelites. Genesis 12:3 (CJB): “I will bless those who bless you, but I will curse anyone who curses you; and by you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”
- Make Proclamations & Declarations. Ask God to reveal what Scriptures He wants you to proclaim. Here are a few to get you started: Psalm 25:22, 28:8–9, 29:11, 69:35–36, 106:47–48; Isaiah 35:4, 49:9, 57:14, 62:1–12; Jeremiah 31:6–7, 10, 21.
- Pray for them from the Old Testament. Don’t use the New Testament, because you don’t want to bring any offense to them.

¹ These are a combination of many of these ways to reach Jewish people that were shared by many people.

At the end of this file is a list of more ways you can pray.

Befriend them with no hidden agenda

- **Be honest with yourself and them.** Before you meet with someone, consider, “What do I want to learn from him or her? And what is my purpose in spending time with that person?”
- **Show them that you want to understand what they believe, but are not trying to change them.** We worship the same God—Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, but you have questions. You know they are chosen by God. They won’t push Judaism on you and they don’t want you to push Christianity on them. They are very discerning and need to know it is not your purpose to proselytize them.
- **Tell them you want to learn from them,** including their understanding of Adonai (God). They know so much about the Scriptures—the whole Old Testament is called the Tanakh. Whatever they share, *don’t* argue with them; that will *never* help them to find the truth.
- **When appropriate, let them know you are a Christian/or Believer who loves them, their God and their land.** Come with a servant’s attitude and with respect for them, but never arrogance. If they ask you to explain what you believe, you can simply share that you believe Jesus or Yeshua is the Messiah, and the Passover Lamb who died for your sins. Share whatever else the Lord leads you to say. Remember that Jews often see the church in replacement theology, that God has thrown them away (and unfortunately this is too often true of how the church sees them).
- **Tell them that they are God’s chosen people.** “It’s amazing what God has done for your nation. You’re special.” That awakens them and opens their hearts to you. It can awaken their DNA, purpose and destiny—to return to Israel and be planted in the land with their roots deep and then to be a light to the nations.
- **Actions speak louder than words.** When we show kindness, or offer to help them in some way, this speaks more than many words and it builds trust. When you do speak to them, speak from your heart, they will pick up on the genuineness and this will open their hearts.
- **Be sensitive to how they may see Christians.** The term Christian and the cross to many Jews, brings the thought of death and destruction, not life. Don’t be offended by this. Throughout history Jews have been killed by those who called themselves Christians and were wearing or carrying crosses. They were slaughtered by those who said they were doing it in obedience to God. The Jews have many times been pegged “Christ killers” and because of this, they are considered to no longer be God’s people. Thus the church justified its violence and belief that Jews and Israel have been replaced by the church. The Crusades, the Inquisition in Spain, persecutions and anti-Semitic attacks throughout church history were carried out in the name of Jesus. Hitler himself quoted from Martin Luther, one of the founding fathers of the Protestant reformation, to justify the “final solution” or annihilation of the Jewish race during World War II.

If this subject happens to come up, make it clear you do not believe like this and that this is totally against what the Bible teaches. You might state your thankfulness to them for giving us the Bible and the Messiah and for what you can learn from them about God. You might want to ask forgiveness for the way the Church has treated their people in the past and even sometimes today. Tell them that you are committed to stand with them and to be a true friend.

Comfort them and speak tenderly to them.

Isaiah 40:1–2 (AMP): “‘Comfort, O comfort My people,’ says your God. ‘Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, And call out to her, that her time of compulsory service in warfare is finished, That her wickedness has

been taken away [since her punishment is sufficient], That she has received from the LORD's hand Double [punishment] for all her sins.”

There are many practical ways you can do this, including the following:

- Talking to them, encouraging them and showing love to them.
- Get to know them. Let them know that you support them. Tell them you want to see reconciliation between the church and Jews. You want to stand with them and support them, not change them.
- Isaiah 40 Speak tenderly. Hearts have a shell around them protecting them because of all persecution. It could look like they are hardened. Speak to them with love and compassion, not just words, but with actions.
- Encourage them in whatever ways they may need, including in who they are.
- Let them know that you want to help them, will pray for them and be there for them if they need you.
- Be a messenger who brings good news, not one who wants to proselytize. Isaiah 52:7 (NLT): “How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news, the good news of peace and salvation, the news that the God of Israel reigns!”

Help them learn about Aliyah and help them through the process, if they are interested.

- **Be familiar with the Scripture promises about God bringing His people back and providing for them in the land.** (You can find a list of Aliyah Scriptures here in the Appendix.) Many times you may be prompted to read one of these Scriptures or mention other promises God has made to Israel in His Word. Always acknowledge and remind them that they are His chosen people.
- **Warn them of coming anti-Semitism.** There may be times when the Lord might have you warn someone that they need to move to Israel before it is too late because of persecution. It is important to do this boldly in love, being obedient, because it could save a life.
- **Help God's people return to their land and serve them in any ways they need.** See Isaiah 49:22, 60:10 and 61:5.
- **Give financially—both to help them with Aliyah, but also with any other needs.** Romans 15:27 (NLT): “They were glad to do this because they feel they owe a real debt to them. Since the Gentiles received the spiritual blessings of the Good News from the believers in Jerusalem, they feel the least they can do in return is to help them financially.” See also Isaiah 61:6 and 66:12.
- **Send them to someone who can counsel them when they are ready to go to Israel.** You could help them research whatever they may need to know (you might want to do some of this ahead of time, so you are ready for any questions). But send them to someone who has already helped others successfully.
- **Bring a good report about Israel to them.** Remember the spies, Joshua and Caleb, who brought a good report about the promised land and told the people even though there were giants in the land they are well able to take possession of it. This glorified the Lord and His faithfulness to give them the victory if they would trust and obey. The other spies had brought an evil report which caused fear in the people and a desire to turn people back to Egypt, including their bondage. Often this might be the only positive report they hear in the West from the media and other sources; so we must bring an encouraging and true word.

Sometimes a good way to start a conversation about this is “Have you ever been to Israel?” “What did you think of it?” or “Why do you think that Jews in America don't want to make Aliyah?” Some of the people will not know what Aliyah means so you might have to explain this. (Aliyah in Hebrew

means, to go up to. To a Jew it means to obtain citizenship in Israel and to move there.) If you have been to Israel or have read positive things about it, share these. Ask the Lord to lead you.

What are others saying about how to help Jews?

Corrie ten Boom shares about helping them escape to safety, if necessary:²

As Bible believing Christians, this is a real dilemma. Romans 13:1 states: “Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.”

This act of political resistance can result in their death and in the death sentence of many others. There is another knock on the door. A young Jewish couple with a baby is in desperate need for help. Then Father Ten Boom says: “There is one law that overrules all other laws, namely, ‘to love the Lord your God above all and your neighbor as yourself.’ These people are our neighbors. Yes they’re God’s precious people, the apple of His eye!” Deuteronomy 32:10 (AMP): “He found him in a desert land, in the howling wasteland of a wilderness; He kept circling him, He took care of him, He protected him as the apple of His eye.”

Adrienne Prosser with OperationExodus.org shares:

God wants us to partner with Him, connecting with His heart, as we see in Isaiah 49:22. We get to be in partnership with the heart of the Father. But there is an action required of us—to carry them. He has displayed such amazing love with His firstborn. Yes, they had consequences, but all He wants is to restore them, and us, back to His heart so He can bless us abundantly.

We pray for them from the Old Testament. We don’t use the New Testament, because we don’t want to bring any offense to them. We demonstrate God’s love in word and deed without proselytizing. Sometimes we bless them with gifts with no strings attached; these can be financial or things they may need.

Gentiles have an opportunity to come alongside God’s chosen people to reveal the Messiah without trying to convert them; instead they show them Jesus. That breaks down barriers and makes a way for a trusting relationship. It’s reuniting family of God. Aliyah is holy work. The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is inviting the Gentile part of His church, to partner with His heart, to carry His people back, serving in whatever area they may need. The heart of the Jewish soul is to return home, not just to a land, but to return to their God, to the heart of the Father.

What Christians can do?

- Intercession. Everything you do should come out of prayer.
- Ask people what their needs are and what you can pray for them.
- Pray that obstacles will be removed from the Aliyah highways in your nation—it is what holds them where they are: prosperity, family ties, whatever may prevent them from making Aliyah.
- Pray they will be touched by God to return to their God-given land.
- Provide funds to bless the Jewish people. Paul made it clear that the Gentiles owe the Jewish people a debt. Without them we wouldn’t have a savior, the Bible, the church—it was founded by Jewish people. Return to an understanding that your roots come from the Jews: Jesus was a Jew,

² <https://www.corrietenboom.com/en/home>

when He returns He'll be a Jew; He is King of the Jews.

Benjamin Berger shares some ways to minister to Jews:

You share with Jews in different ways, depending on who they are. Jews who are assimilated into whatever culture they are in are easier to reach because Jewish identity is not strong. Non-assimilated Jews, those who follow the Jewish beliefs and lifestyle, have a stronger sense of being Jews. Both groups, but especially the latter group, needs to sense that friendship is authentic, not just to convert to Christianity. When you befriend people because you care, they will listen (although it can take time for them to recognize that you really do care).

Once you befriend them with no agenda, you can encourage them to go to their homeland. They may also be open to gospel, but your friendship has to be genuine. If they sense you have another agenda, they will be closed to anything you say or do. Jews are very suspicious of Gentiles. Love them, but they have to know it's authentic. You love them, not to be able to say you brought a Jewish person to Jesus, although it is wonderful when a Jewish person comes to know the Messiah. As God makes opportunities to get to know Jewish people, develop friendships with them.

Shirley Laurenson with Operation Exodus

Most Jewish people, especially the religious Jews, have the dream to make Aliyah at some point, they want to go to the land of Israel. It never stops, especially observant Jews. Three times a day they pray to make Aliyah. We encourage and comfort them. They know up front that we are Christians, but we don't want to change them—we just want to bless them, love them and support them in any ways we can. Those we are helping often ask, “Why do you love us and want to help us?” They grew up knowing that Christians didn't support them and often harmed them, like in the holocaust. They wonder, “Why are you now suddenly wanting to help us?” We say, “The God of Israel loves you and we love you. We believe in Aliyah and God has given us His love that we can share with you. They will say, “You are different.” We respond, “We are not really different. We love God as you love God and we love Israel.”

Understanding God's heart for Aliyah is understanding what He says He's going to do. He will do it with or without us. He is already doing it, but he wants us to experience the blessing.

Shirley has been with Operation Exodus for 28 years. She was in Ukraine for 10 years, Jerusalem for 10 years and now in New York 6 years.

Dean Bye talks about getting to know Jews without conditions

I can't say enough to Christians, get to know your Jewish community and try to find a love without a condition. Make sure you don't feel the guilt of just being able to get to know somebody without having to tell them this or tell them that. That's very difficult for evangelical Christians. We feel a sense of guilt if I don't tell them about Jesus, but the reality is that hasn't worked for 2000 years. In fact it's actually moved us into inquisitions and crusades and the holocaust. The worst anti-Semitism is that which is found in the local church, in the body of Christ.

This are our reality but now we have to overcome the mistrust Jews feel toward Christians. Part of overcoming that mistrust is coming with a sense of humility for the Jewish people and it begins with listening. We want to develop a depth of friendship, since most friends love somebody that understands them that will listen to them. We need God's wisdom about what to say or what not to say.

Carolyn Hyde, a worship leader in Israel (www.HeartOfG-d.org) shares:

Don't try to be Jewish. We are grafted in to the commonwealth of Israel. We are who we are. Let's keep our eyes focused on Yeshua—always!! Believers will lose faith if they don't keep their eyes on Yeshua. Here are some things you can do:

- Pray for Aliyah.—it's praying for Yeshua to return.
- How do I get involved? Joining with something like the Altar of Prayer, not a news service that gives a lot of negative news.
- Matthew 24 is great place to minister from; it speaks of the return of Yeshua in clouds of glory. In it we learn lesson from the fig tree—Israel. When it begins to bud and bring shoots then you know it's time for Yeshua to return. Jews have to be ready to welcome Him home. They are not there yet, but they are getting there.

Carolyn Hyde and her family often share the Messiah on streets in Israel. One way they do that is by asking people to read Isaiah 53 and then asking them what they think about it. Most have never read it, because the religious leaders either forbid them to read it or skip over reading it in the Synagogues. God is opening hearts of people to Yeshua, especially when people meet fellow Israeli's, speaking Hebrew.

Many of the rabbis are coming to Christ, but they must stay hidden, or else they could lose everything. One time an Orthodox man showed someone I know how many of the Jews at the Western Wall were believers—there were over sixty there at that time! God is working.

Chaim Malespin with www.FaithfulGalileans.com shares:

The first way Gentiles can help with Aliyah is by changing their mindset. They need to get to know the cultivated olive tree that they're grafted in, (Romans 11) that's the tree of salvation. They haven't replaced the tree, but have rather been grafted into it. This olive tree has its roots in Israel—not in Toronto or Singapore or New York City or anywhere else—and God won't let it be uprooted.

Dawn shares (she wishes to remain anonymous):

Pray that the Israeli ministries and rabbis in Israel would understand Jewish identity (including the Ministry of Interior and the Jewish Agency). They need to let go of old definitions of who is a Jew and who isn't, to understand who God says is Jewish. Jews who believe that Yeshua is the Messiah are just as Jewish as someone who doesn't. Unfortunately, the Israeli government and others think that Jews who believe in Jesus have converted to another religion, so they are no longer Jewish. Actually, religion has nothing to do with Jewish identity, any more than religion can determine whether or not a person is American.

Teddy Campo with Aliyah Ministries International (teddycampo777@gmail.com) shares:

Make as many Jewish friends as possible, but keep your mouth shut and let the light of Yeshua shine through you. If you do that, you end up getting to spend time with them and get invited to their homes and events. Don't try to evangelize them, or have any agenda for your time with them, other than to be who you are in Christ and love on them. We have many Jewish friends who can't believe we show up over and over. They have become family to us.

American Jews are complacent. They know about anti-Semitism, but think it won't happen here. When it really starts here it can get bad quickly. There will be mistrust, but they need to know they can trust you and contact you if they need help.

Peg Byers with Return Ministries shares some thoughts:

Loving God has to include blessing Israel, because it is his heart. If you leave Israel out of the picture, you haven't got the picture. We have to get back to basics. Jesus on the road to Emmaus, said "You slow of heart, don't you know what the prophets and Moses said." (VERSE) We have to get back to what the biblical prophets said, rather than what the latest prophets today have said. Let's get back to the Word.

Even when we mess up and Jewish people have messed up big time, God will still restore them to their proper inheritance. We have a role to play in that, to make them jealous by who we are. We can help people Jewish people get home with no conditions (not expecting them to convert to our beliefs).

Prayer points

Here are some ways you can partner with God in prayer for what He wants to do with His whole heart and soul. These are taken out of *Explore God's Heart for Aliyah*:

1. Pray also that God will send workers into the Aliyah harvest.
2. Pray earnestly for the Jewish people's salvation and for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6; Isaiah 62:1–7; Romans. 9:1–5; 10:1).
3. Pray for any Jews you may know. If you don't know any, research your city or state to see how many Jews are living there. Then pray for them that God will touch their hearts to want to make Aliyah.
4. Pray that God will raise up people to help bring His people home. If you are bold, ask God if He might want to use you in some way to answer that prayer.
5. Pray that God will plant many Jews from your home country into the land of Israel.
6. Pray for God's protection over Israel, from all their enemies, within and without.
7. Ask God to soften His people's hearts so they will repent and come back to Him.
8. Ask God how He wants you praying and partnering with Him to see His people brought back to Israel.
9. Ask God for a fresh understanding of His heart for His people, so you can feel what He feels.
10. Pray God will reveal His truth to more and more Jews, especially in North America, so they will hear His voice and return to the land of Israel that He promised them.
11. Ask God to open the eyes of Gentiles, including yourself, to see what God is doing in Israel as He is bringing His people back from the ends of the earth.
12. Ask God to open the doors for more believers in Christ to make Aliyah.
 - a. Ask God to give you a greater love for His people.
13. Ask Him how He wants you to be involved in bringing His people to Israel. It could be praying, giving, serving with a ministry like Return Ministries or something else.
14. Pray God will help His people want to make Aliyah while they can, before hunters begin to hunt them (through anti-Semitism).
15. Pray that Jews will begin to see that Yeshua HaMashiach, Jesus Christ, is their Messiah. They are waiting for the Messiah to come to earth, but most don't yet realize that He already came and fulfilled many prophecies, and He is coming again.
16. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem and all of Israel. They continually have enemies coming at them from all sides and from within—the countries around them and from some of the Arabs living in the land. Psalm 122:6 (ESV): “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! May they be secure who love you!”
17. Pray that God will give Israelis knowledge and understanding in how and what to plant so the land will be fruitful.
18. Ask God how you can come alongside Jews who are moving to or living in Israel, helping them become firmly planted in the land.
19. Pray that the eyes of the Jews will be opened to recognize who their Messiah is.
20. Ask God to bring Him children back to the land, because that is where they will come to know Him.
21. Pray Ezekiel 39:28. Here is one way: Thank You that Your people will know that You are the Lord their God when You bring them back into their own land. You say You will leave none of them remaining among the nations anymore. Please show me more of what this means.
22. Pray that the Church will begin to understand what must happen before Christ can return.

23. Pray for the Jews who are still scattered around the world and need to come to their homeland. Ask God to give them that desire to make Aliyah and live in Israel.
24. Pray for protection for Israel and Jews, both inside and outside of Israel.
25. Pray that the Anousim, the Sephardic Jews, those from Hispanic descent who were persecuted in Spain and other places, will be allowed to get their citizenship in Israel. Most, if not all of them, have nothing that reveals their Jewish identity, because they had to destroy all of it to keep from being persecuted.
26. Pray also that the doors will open for Jews who already believe in their Messiah to get their citizenship. Believers in the Messiah are the most discriminated against by those who make the decisions. If those in power find out that someone believes in Yeshua, they are automatically denied citizenship.
27. Pray that the leaders in the government who are over Aliyah will be changed, so any and all Jews will be allowed to get their citizenship, including the Anousim and believers in Yeshua.
28. Pray that all Israel to be saved. Pray for their salvation, that they will receive a revelation of who Yeshua is and accept Him as their Messiah.
29. Ask God to show you how you can partner with Him in bringing salvation to the Jews.
30. Ask God to open your heart and mind to understand His Word in greater ways, especially in those areas where you have not understood or maybe you misinterpreted the Scriptures.
31. Ask God to bring His people back to their land, so they can be saved.
32. Pray that God will raise up people who can and will share their faith with Jews in ways they can understand and accept. Pray God will give them great wisdom to know what to say and what not to say, so they know exactly what each person needs to hear.
33. Pray for protection over Israel and the Jews wherever they are in the world.
34. Repent for any way (s that) you might have felt that serving Israel and Jews is beneath you or maybe you thought (that) they don't deserve to be served (because they killed your Savior).
35. Ask God to send more people to help bring His people to Israel.
36. Ask God how He might want to use you to raise up the tribes of Jacob and restore them.
37. Pray that Jews will get to Israel, so then they will come to know the Lord.
38. Ask God to reveal to you and other Gentiles how you can play your part in God's script in the Bible.
39. Ask God to raise up more Gentiles who are willing to bring the sons in their arms, and the daughters on their shoulders.
40. Pray for the partial hardening to be lifted so they can understand the truth about their Messiah. Ask God to begin to open their eyes and hearts more and more.
41. God is bringing many Jews to their Messiah. I heard recently that over one million Jews have accepted Christ. Pray for more of His precious children to come to Him.
42. Pray for Gentiles who don't yet have a revelation of God's heart for Israel, that they will be open and begin to pray for Israel.
43. Pray that people, Jews and Gentiles, will be open to allow God to pour His Spirit on them, being open to prophesying, dreaming and seeing visions.
44. Pray for the political situation in Israel, that God will raise up godly leaders and, if needed, remove any who don't have His values.
45. Pray for the protection of children in Israel and around the world who are being aborted and abused.
46. Ask God how you can bless Israel and Israelites.
47. Confess times you or your family may have cursed Israel and Jews, even inadvertently.
48. Ask God to continue to bless Israel with incredible ideas that bless the whole world.
49. Pray for Israel's safety from any attacks of the enemy, spiritual or physical, coming from within

or from outside the country.

50. Ask God how you can provoke Jews to jealousy. Romans 11:11 (ESV): “So I ask, did they stumble in order that they might fall? By no means! Rather, through their trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous.”
51. Ask God to bring Jews into your life, whether they already know their Messiah or not.
52. Pray for any you know or any that are in your city or state.
53. Ask God to reveal if you or your family line may have any anti-Semitism. If so, confess it and repent.
54. Ask God to expose anti-Semitism and replacement theology in the Church. Many may not know they have it.
55. Pray God brings a unity between Christians and Jews, beginning with the believers being grateful they have been brought into God’s family, rather than replacing them.
56. Pray that God will send a wave of homesickness on the many Israelis who are living outside of Israel (Jeremiah 51:6–10).
57. Ask God to bring hope back to His people and an understanding that He has great plans for them when they return to the land He gave them through Abraham.
58. Pray for the protection of Israel and the Jews, both in the land and wherever they are around the world.
59. Pray for wisdom to know how to talk to other believers about what you have learned in these studies and how to effectively connect with Jews who don’t yet know their Messiah.
60. Pray that God will lay on Jewish people’s hearts to want to live in Israel.
61. Pray God raises up more people to help Jews make Aliyah. Ask God if He wants you to be part of that answer.
62. Pray also that the doors will open for Jews who already believe in their Messiah to get their citizenship. Believers in the Messiah are the most discriminated against by those who make the decisions. If those in power find out that someone believes in Yeshua, they are automatically denied citizenship.