

A call from AustralAsia
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It seems a bit odd to issue a call, to those who have already both heard and answered the most significant call of the Lord, to go into all the world and tell the Good News of Messiah, to a people who never themselves called for us to help. And yet that's our assigned topic for the next few minutes. A call.

And more specifically, a call from AustralAsia. Some of you are still confused by that term, and we'll have a bit of a chat about that later if you'd like, but for now, think Australia and a bit around it.

Four things are of note about LCJE in the South Pacific. One, we have a dream and we attested to it, from the opening address in February this year at our 2nd conference, to today, as many of us continue to speak about it. The dream is this: We hope to see 10% of AustralAsian Jewry believing in Jesus the Messiah by the end of the year 2020.

The second item of note is that in order to accomplish this dream we have to pray and to pray together. No one mission is going to accomplish this dream. No congregation is going to grow enough to welcome 10,000 Jews in 9 years. Cooperative zeal is the stuff of which contracts and treaties are made. Ours however, is a cooperation based on covenant and at that a clear understanding of both the Older and Newer Testament view of covenant.

Oswald Chambers, whom I've read nearly daily for 37 years, said this:

“Dreaming about a thing in order to do it properly is right; but dreaming about it when we should be doing it is wrong. After Our Lord had said those wonderful things to His disciples, we might have expected that He would tell them to go away and meditate over them all; but Our Lord never allowed "mooning." When we are getting into contact with God in order to find out what He wants, dreaming is right; but when we are inclined to spend our time in dreaming over what we have been told to do, it is a bad thing and God's blessing is never on it. God's initiative is always in the nature of a stab against this kind of dreaming, the stab that bids us "neither sit nor stand, but go."

If we are quietly waiting before God and He has said - "Come ye yourselves apart," then that is meditation before God in order to get at the line He wants; but always beware of giving over to mere dreaming when once God has spoken. Leave Him to be the source of all your dreams and joys and delights, and go out and obey what He has said. If you are in love, you do not sit down and dream about the one you love all the time, you go and do something for him; and that is what Jesus Christ expects us to do. Dreaming after God has spoken is an indication that we do not trust Him." (*My Utmost for His Highest* for 20 February)

That said, our dream is real, and valid, and worthy of our attention and our praying. We long for Jewish people to find Y'shua and to become and make disciples around

the world. And we evidenced that in praying together at the LCJE conference in February each morning where almost 100% of the conferees gathered before breakfast. God had our attention!

We are continuing that joint commitment by our monthly Prayer Journal that one of the brothers from CWI puts together. Each of our ministries has a prayer network, and then he compiles them into one for us all. That way we are still praying regularly for one another.

Third, cooperation, which is so inherent in the ethos of the Lausanne movement itself, is something we address and confront often. In Sydney our JOOS (Jewish Outreaches of Sydney) meetings continue 3 or 4 times a year, and has for 10 years now. We share ideas and often offer support, even financially for projects one can afford and others desire to perform. In other instances, we receive phone calls from churches asking about the suitability of another ministry and we speak well of each other. When we can, we attend each others' gatherings to lend support that way. We have evangelized alongside each other. Cooperation is not a dream; it's what we do here.

When churches or ministries feel they are in the majority, or are being very successful, they often extend to themselves the privilege to be aloof from each other. In contrast, when we know we are desperately in the minority, we hold onto each other and support each other whenever we can. This goes against the devilish reality of so many small businesses which see competition as their life blood. We, however, are on the same small team, impacting a very big world.

Fourth (of four), we are considering and longing for physical spaces. Two different missions are hoping to set up Messianic Jewish Community Centres (in different cities, of course), and I'm looking into the desperate need we have for at least one Messianic Jewish cemetery in country. We need physical spaces that continue to make our message clear if, or long after, we are not around.

Our call to the Jewish community continues to be, "Here is our Messiah."

Our call to the believing community continues, "Help us reach our brethren with the good news of Messiah."

Our call to you today is, "Please pray for us, come visit us, come work with us for a week or two, and share your life and lives with us. Remember your brothers and sisters in distant shores, and let us exalt His name together."

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