## Report for LCJE Israel 2007-2011 **David Zadok, LCJE Area Coordinator**

Dear Friends,

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!

David wrote these wonderful words as a testimony to God's goodness in all circumstances. And indeed as we look back over the past four years and the work of LCJE in Israel, we can say that He is indeed good. While there is much that may have been done and perhaps should have been done, many good things have happened for which we are thankful.

Israel is a unique country and that also has its affect on a network like LCJE. For many years the work of the LCJE in Israel was slow and at times almost non-existent. I believe this is changing, slowly but surely. Several meetings and one-day conferences have been organized by the LCJE Israel over the past four years. The first two conferences were limited to LCJE members and to those who received personal invitations from members. But the conference in 2011 was open to participants from all congregations and organizations in the land. One reason for this was the interest shown in the 2010 LCJE conference, and the requests of several people to be invited to the next one! And indeed we were glad to comply with their wishes.

Over the past four years we have conducted three conferences on aspects of evangelism in Israel. The first conference discussed the ways in which electronic media is used in evangelism in Israel. One of the speakers was an Arab Christian who produces Christian TV programs that are broadcasted throughout the Middle East. The second conference was held with the goal of discussing how specific groups in the Israeli society are being reached. We had a lecture about the New Age and ways to present the Gospel at New Age festivals. The second and third lectures were on the use of the Internet to reach young people, and evangelism to students in the universities and colleges. The fourth and final lecture was on evangelism to the Ethiopian community, presented by a prominent member of their community.

Our 2011 conference will be held on June 16, and concerns the follow-up ministry after evangelism. There is a need to raise this issue, to discuss and learn together how we can be more efficient in following up on those who have had initial contact with the Gospel.

One issue that has occupied our thoughts is the role of the LCJE in Israel. While LCJE fulfills a great and important role as a network in the international arena, its place in Israel is not as clear. There are already many venues for the local congregations and organizations in which they meet and cooperate on an individual or regional basis. Such meetings can be held fairly regularly because Israel is a small country and it is relatively easy to travel from the north to the south or from the east to the west.

Until recently the local churches have not been as involved with LCJE as the parachurch organizations. For this reason we have worked towards involving the congregations more in order to show them the benefits of the LCJE network. We have

made progress but there is still a long way to go. The LCWE conference in Cape Town provided good exposure to those who attended from Israel and we have seen good fruit come from that. I am also hoping that the 9<sup>th</sup> international conference in London in August 2011 will do much to expose LCJE to more of the people who have not been involved in LCJE.

Finally, we have held dialogues with the National Evangelistic Committee. One of their members gave a lecture in an LCJE conference and several of them participated. It is important that we find ways to support the NEC and to serve the body of Messiah in a better way for the cause of the Gospel.

Please pray for us and ask the Lord to give us wisdom from above in how to move forward and be a blessing to our people in Israel through the LCJE network.

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