

Internet Evangelism in Israel

Eitan Bar, Campus Crusade for Christ

Why Internet?

* According to comscore.com (the globally leading company in measuring the digital world), Israel is the leading country in the world for hourly time spent online, 57.5 hours a month! (twice the amount than the average people in the U.S).

* Israel is leading the world of Internet technology, Windows XP was developed by Israelis, VOIP ("Voice over Internet protocol") which skype is based on was also developed by Israelis, PHP, which most websites in the world are based on today, also got developed by two Israelis. Many of Intel chips were developed in the Israeli branch of Intel... and the list can continue, but you got the idea!

* 95% of Israelis between the ages 15-28 own a Facebook account.

* Every 100 Israelis will own 122 computers (First in the world)

* Proselytizing minors (under 18) is illegal in Israel. The Internet is both the best way for them to explore for themselves as well as a point of reference for believing youth to send their friends to.

* Today, if an Israeli googles "Messianic Jews" or "God" or "Yeshua" in Hebrew, the first results to come up are anti-missionary websites. That is because anti-missionary organizations invest a lot of money in search engine optimization and advertisements for the words people look for when searching about our faith online.

* The Internet gives you the freedom to investigate about Yeshua (Jesus) for yourself without anyone putting you down for it. You can read the New-Testament without your father kicking you out of the house. Or you can talk to Believers in Yeshua and form relationships without anyone knowing about it.

* Israelis shop online, research online, communicate online, create relationships online and entertain themselves online. Wireless Fidelity ("Hot spots" \ "WiFi") is available to the public for free at universities, coffee shops, malls hospitals and even at the beaches. Almost every house in Israel is connected to the Internet. In Israel, everyone is online, all the time!

Statistics

"משיח" \ "Messiah" = 56,000 times a month.
"ישוע" \ "Yeshua" (Jesus) = 12,500 times a month.
"אלוהים" \ "God" = 42,000 times a month.
"משיחיים" \ "Messianic" = 2000 times a month.
"הברית החדשה" \ "New Testament" = 2200 times a month.
"גאולה" \ "Redemption" = 10,000 times a month.

On average, every 9 hours, an Israeli downloaded the New Testament in MP3 format in 2010.

On average, every 20 hours, an Israeli ordered a free copy of the NT.

VISITORS TO OUR TOP 5 WEBSITES DURING 2010:

www.iGod.co.il = 39,403
www.medabrim.org.il = 33,148
www.xRabbi.co.il = 16,016
www.הברית-החדשה.com (NT) = 5,233
www.newlife.org.il = 3,000

What are we doing?

We run 7 evangelistic websites and 2 more follow-up websites. the evangelistic websites targets different audiences in the Israeli society, all websites are in the Hebrew language, all are connected to each other and all have a Q&A forum for the public.

iGod.co.il – Includes scientific and academic articles ("Apologetics") about different subjects, with a focus on people who are looking for a more intelligent default for believing in God. The article categories are: "Science & Evolution", "History & Archeology", "Theology & the Bible", "God", "Messiah", "Enigmas" and "Life Issues". Within these categories, you will find articles like "Where was God during the holocaust?", "Does science support the existence of God?", "Why do we desire sex and relationships?", "When does the OT say the Messiah will come?", "Why is there hate in the world?", "Is faith in God for simple folks only?", "Did Jesus claim to be God?", "Why isn't it enough that I'm a good person?", "The forbidden chapter (Isaiah 53)", "Why do Rabbis hate Jesus so much?", "Is life a result of random coincidences?" ...just a few from about 60-80 other articles (all of which are written in Hebrew). This compilation of

articles is a result of our working together with the materials of great writers such as Josh McDowell, Dr. Fruchtenbaum, Dr Michael Brown and others.

In addition, it is possible to contact us via the website and to order different books and movies.

Medabrim.org.il – Testimonies of Jewish Israelis who came to know the Lord, presented in both video and text format. As well as video teachings on the messianic prophecies in the old testament. It is also possible for internet visitors to contact us and order evangelistic materials. This is a joint project with Ha'Carmel & Kerem-El congregations. This website is very important because the religious Jewish tries to put believers in a bad, cultish light, saying we are not Jewish and not Israeli, this site proves them wrong. Another important issue is that it helps believers to step out of their comfort zone, since they see their friends on the website.

הברית-החדשה.com - In Israel its hard to obtain a copy on the NT, you won't find it in the local bookstore and you really don't want your mother to see you reading one. so on our website you can read, download as mp3 or order a copy of the New Testament in modern Hebrew for free! Internet visitors are able to contact us via the website. This is a joint project with Jews For Jesus organization and The Bible Society in Israel.

whyGod.co.il – A 5 steps followed by prayer, presented by multimedia: "Father's love letter" (the message of the Gospel from mainly the Old Testament), "Life that was changed" (Testimonies), "Interview with God" (explaining the idea of Sin), "Who is Yeshua", "God and You" (4 spiritual laws) and an invitation to pray to receive the Lord. Visitors can contact us and will be followed up by a Messianic Israeli believer. This is a joining project with Jesus.net

xRabbi.co.il – If you ask any Jewish person about Messianic Jews - they will tell you that we were brainwashed because we didn't raised in a Talmudic and Rabbinic environment. xRabbi.co.il gives 10 testimonies of key Rabbis who came to know the Lord and decided to share their life changing stories!

messianic.co.il – “Messianic” is based on the idea of self-discipleship, it is not supposed to replace human discipleship, but it is coming from an understanding that in our reality, not everyone is capable of being disciple. Messianic.co.il helps believers to grow step by step in getting to know God and how to walk with him better and better, from basic step like assurance of salvation and prayer, to a more deep theological issues. The website now offers events, reviews, news, prayer box, radio and more... we also integrated Facebook into it so people can comment and enjoy each other's company.

Newlife.org.il – The Jesus Film Project. Visitors can order a complimentary DVD of the Magdalena and the Jesus film in almost any language as well as an option to watch it live

stream in HD (High Definition) online. there is also a full list of prophecies from the old testament coming true in Yeshua. Each DVD order will be followed up by a local congregation. this a joint project with Campus Crusade for Christ in Israel.

How can you help?

By praying with us and \ or by financial donations, please visit: www.oneforisrael.org

Eitan Bar

eitan.bar@ccci.org