

# GROWING IN GOD

PODCAST



## GIG152 – Highlights from Our Trip to Israel

Hello everyone, and welcome to our podcast. We are here in Jerusalem at the AMI Center for Biblical Studies and Research, and we have been here for almost three weeks now. We are doing quite a bit with looking into the different organizations that we support, and developing the connections and the relationships with them as we go along. And so, we felt it would be good to give everyone a report and just kind of include you in all that we have been doing. We have had requests from some of our listeners asking that we do this, and I think it really is a good idea. Hopefully, this will be a great blessing for you.

This will be very informative as to the projects that Hargrave Ministry supports on a monthly basis in Israel, and I really am proud that we are doing this, I am happy we are doing this. I feel like it is a blessing that we are able to participate in some of these organizations. And, if we are asking for donations, we want to make sure that we are really putting those donations into organizations that are worthy of your time and energy and involvement. That is why we are taking the time on this trip. We actually traveled during this season because of the Jerusalem Prayer Breakfast that was scheduled at the first of the month of June; and we wanted to add to that time, so we stayed about three more weeks to visit each of these organizations.

Before we start, I just want to read this Scripture, because I feel like this really is a mandate to us of what we are looking for in the Scriptures. I think that this Word is something that really speaks to the Gentile Church at this time in the earth, and I think it gives a guidance for us of how we are to relate and participate with Israel and the Jewish people. This is from Isaiah, the fortieth chapter, verses 1-5.

“Comfort, O comfort My people,” says your God. “Speak kindly to Jerusalem; and call out to her, that her warfare has ended, that her iniquity has been removed, that she has received of the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.”

A voice is calling, “Clear the way for the Lord in the wilderness; make smooth in the desert a highway for our God. Let every valley be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; and let the rough ground become a plain, and the rugged terrain a broad valley; then the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all flesh will see it together; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

This, to me, very much speaks to the timeframe we are in during these end days, that we are to make a smooth path for the return of Messiah to Israel, to Jerusalem, and we are to be a blessing to the Jewish people in the process of that – because we know that He will appear, and we know that the mouth of the Lord has spoken it, and therefore it will happen. So I want to encourage you with those words.

And now, we are going to take a little time with each of the projects that we donate to from Hargrave Ministries on a monthly basis. Bruce and I will go back and forth and kind of tell you our experience as we went and visited them, and what our feelings were in encountering and developing relations.

**Gary:** The first thing I would start with is AMI Center, since we’re sitting right here at the AMI Center. As most of you know, the AMI Center was started by Shlomo Hizak, and we have been involved with it

for many, many years. There is a great ministry for AMI, and I will turn it over to Bruce, because he actually is one of the directors of the AMI Center, and he can give us some of the details of our time here with them.

**Bruce:** Thanks, Gary. Yes, it has been wonderful to be staying here at the AMI Center. It has provided an important opportunity for me, as one of the directors, to meet with Daniel Gwertzman. We've had a number of meetings, very important, and I have met with each of the staff and some of the other directors, both in person and by phone. We're really looking to the Lord, praying, talking, really believing for the Holy Spirit to lead us for the future of the AMI Center – to really have the ability, with the Lord's guidance, to carry out the vision and heart that the Lord originally planted in Shlomo, but is continuing to connect and to build bridges between the Jewish people and Christians. One final thing I would say about the AMI Center is, Daniel, Ingrid, Yoshie, Almaz, they make us feel like family. It is really the AMI Center family, and each of them have told me, "Please, please, when you talk to people that are part of the Hargrave Ministry family, that are working with you in the ministry, please give them our love. We dearly love them so much, and really do appreciate the prayers and donations that have come in for the AMI Center."

**Gary:** Great. Why don't you talk a little bit about Yad Eliezer?

**Bruce:** Yeah. Yad Eliezer is one of the organizations that, to me, I left thinking how thankful I am for the opportunity to give money for them. We met with the chief operating officer, Yossi Adler, and several on his staff. They went into great detail about their own personal heart, why they are involved, how they go about really finding and checking out who really has a legitimate need for help in Israel; and it includes widows, orphans, and poor people living in Israel. I want to quickly read one Scripture, it's Deuteronomy 15:11: "'For the poor will never cease to be in the land; therefore I command you, saying, 'You shall freely open your hand to your brother, to your needy and poor in your land.''" Those Scriptures, actually throughout the Old Testament, speak over and over again about the importance in God's heart for us to really give of ourselves for the poor and the needy, and what a tremendous opportunity it is. My wife and I contribute toward this, and I feel privileged to do so, to really be able to, in a very efficient, effective way, give to the real needs in Israel. Gary.

**Gary:** Yes, it was really a tremendous experience to go visit Yad Eliezer, to meet the staff. They do take care of the poor. They feed those that are very much in need, but they do many other things. They especially take care of children; they provide diapers, and they provide formula and other things. They provide for the children coats and blankets. Some of these children don't have any bedding, and a lot of times they are sleeping just on their parent's coat, or whatever that they would take off and put over them at night so they wouldn't be cold. But the need here in Israel is very, very real. There are so many people coming in to the land of Israel from all over the world, out of the Diaspora, coming back; but also because of things like Ukraine, the war that is transpiring there; other persecutions of the Jewish people that are taking place around the world are forcing people to move back to Israel, just for their own safety and livelihood. But when they arrive here, many of them do not know Hebrew. They do not have the skills to take care of themselves, because what they did in their home country may not apply, or their license may not be good here. They literally are starting a new life from scratch, and many times they are coming with the clothes on their back. So the need is very, very real; and it's such an honor, as Bruce was saying, to partner with Yad Eliezer and the work that they do. They are an amazing heart. They do not make the people feel like they are just living on charity. And their aim, eventually, in helping

people is to bring them out of the poverty scale and into a place where they are able to support and take care of themselves. So that's really a blessing of where they come from.

The next place that we visited, and I'll start off and then let Bruce pick up with it, is the Haifa Home for Holocaust Survivors. Now the Haifa Home is one of the works from the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem, or ICEJ, and they do a wonderful job taking care of these Holocaust survivors that may not have any family, anyone to help them. They are all getting older, as we know, because of the timeframe of when the Holocaust happened; and so, many of them, they don't have anyone else in the world to take care of them. They are not able to take care of themselves at this point in time; they have health needs, they have needs for finances, for food. What the ICEJ has done is to go into Haifa and buy different apartment buildings that are closely related to each other. In those buildings, they have set up their offices, but they have also set up the kitchen, and dining area, and therapy rooms, and many, many other needed services for these people, including just areas to come and be together and fellowship. So it's a tremendous work that they are doing.

I'll let Bruce tell you a little bit about our encounter with Simcha, who was the one who took us around and showed us the Haifa Home.

**Bruce:** Before I talk about Simcha, which was a tremendous experience, I did want to say it's a privilege to meet some of the Holocaust victims, to actually talk in person to them. As Gary said, the situation in Ukraine has provided or created additional needs. One of the Holocaust victims I talked to had fled from Ukraine, and I thought, wow, what a double whammy – she survived the Holocaust, was living in Ukraine, and fled for her life from Ukraine without her family just to get out of the country. The Haifa Holocaust Home has provided a new family for her; it has been tremendous. And Simcha is the lady we talked to there, young lady, who expressed through many Scriptures her love for God, her love for God's Word, her love for Israel, and especially her love for God's people, the Jewish people here. And you could tell what a deep love she had for the Holocaust survivors. She talked about them being a family, and it felt that way, just a great family there together, providing them security and a home. And what touched me the most about her heart coming out was how diligently she had sought the Lord in her own life for God to lead her, and really feeling the Lord speaking to her heart to come and just give her life serving these people here at the Holocaust Home.

The next place we went was to the Lavi Forest, there in Northern Israel and the Galilee along the Gospel Trail. And I'll be honest, I have always wanted to plant a tree in Israel, and they gave Gary and I the opportunity together. We had shovels in hand, planting a tree there along the Gospel Trail. It was such a feeling of fulfillment. Not only, you know, reading the Scriptures and seeing the fulfillment, which you can – you come to Israel and you realize this country has gone from what Mark Twain described one hundred fifty years ago as a bleak wasteland of rocky soil, with hardly a tree in the country, to now 240 million trees, and the entire country filled with forest and trees and farmland. It's beautiful. And to be able to literally, personally, participate in the fulfillment of God's Word was tremendous. As we were planting the trees, honestly, I thought about the whole Hargrave Ministry family, all the donors, thinking we were just carrying you guys in our hearts and we were all there together planting this tree.

**Gary:** Yeah, it was really a fun time to be out in the middle of the forest there where they are doing the planting. They really showered us with love and appreciation, and I want that to come across to you; because many of you are donating, and, as we said, every month, we donate to each of these. So when you donate to Hargrave Ministries, you are participating in each of these very, very special projects that we are a part of. And Lavi Forest is one of those; as Bruce was saying, to see the country now with the

forest being restored. But this is a special area that we are donating to, and that is the creation of this Gospel Trail, which is an area of trails for camping, for biking. It goes from Nazareth out to the Sea of Galilee, to Capernaum; and this is something that people are going to be able to come to Israel and use. It's really going to be a special place. And all of the money that we're contributing is going specifically into trees to be planted in this area.

What they did was so tremendous. Michael, who is in charge of the fundraising for this portion of the Lavi ministry, he was really, really so kind and so careful. He had a plaque created for Hargrave Ministries; and if you go to the website, I know we did video of the presentation of the plaque and the planting of the tree, and all of that you can see. We will probably be posting that video in the membership area of the Hargrave Ministry website. You can see Michael and you can see the crew that he had there with him to make sure that this tree got planted. He picked the tree out himself. He said, "I wanted something that would provide food and provide shade, and so I picked a Carob tree," which, of course, as he said, this is reportedly what John the Baptist ate when he was in the wilderness. So he felt it was appropriate for us at Hargrave Ministries to have something like this as the tree that we planted. But we're continuing to plant trees, and the money that we give every month is going to more and more trees to be planted along this trail. I encourage you to go and look at the beautiful plaque. They did a wonderful presentation, created a video, and it really was a special time getting to meet Michael and his crew of foresters that take care of all of this planting that is going on in Israel.

So, do you have more about the forest, or shall we move on? Okay. I know, honestly, with these things, we could go on for an hour on each one of them. So we're trying to be succinct here so this isn't too long, but I also want to make sure that we both are able to hit the high points of our visits.

The next thing that I would focus on for us is Shilo Israel Children's Fund, or Shiloh Israel Children's Fund. This, of course, is in the town of Shilo, or Shiloh, very close to ancient Shiloh where the Tent of Meetings was erected after they came across into the Land over the Jordan River. This is also the area of Judea-Samaria; and, of course, it's usually referred to on the news as the West Bank, and talked about as though it's a very contended area. And you have to see it to understand that it is not what is presented on the news. But because of the conflict that is there, there are a lot of terror events that take place; and therefore, the children who live in this area, and actually the families that live in this area, are many times subject to terror attack and to events that damage them emotionally, and in their heart and their soul. And so, the purpose of Shilo Israel Children's Fund is to produce in this school, that exists in Shiloh, the therapies that are needed for all of those who have been traumatized by different events of terrorism.

We know that most of the people in that area in one way or another have been affected. What I was glad to see, and I'll make this kind of my high point, was that beyond just working with the children, they have started recognizing the need now to also work with the whole family – with the mother, the father, the others in the family – because of the need everyone has; and I am so happy to see that they are expanding what they are doing. All of those who are working there are licensed therapists. They are very highly trained in this type of trauma that people experience, and so they do a wonderful job. They just finished building a new facility that has many rooms in it, all of which are set up for different therapies; some of it is group counseling, some of it is other types of therapy treatments. And, of course, one of them that hopefully Bruce will talk about is the petting zoo.

**Bruce:** As Gary said, I was impressed with the very high level of professionalism and training, a number of them with advanced degrees, and their effectiveness in providing therapy to both the children and

families. They have a little petting zoo there, and you see these traumatized children sitting there playing and petting these animals. They do it through artwork, and through various creative ways of therapy that are really very effective. And in addition to the professionalism and the effectiveness, you really feel their love for these kids. It comes through. It is a level of dedication in giving their lives for these traumatized children and families that come from all over Israel to this Center.

The one thing I would add to this is that in prior visits, we have had the opportunity to talk to and even interview David Rubin, the founder of this Center. We have heard his story several times, that years ago when his son was very young,

**Gary:** I think he was three years old.

**Bruce:** Three years old, yes. In that area, they were driving, and they were subject to a terror attack. Somebody shot; both David was hit by a bullet and his young son. The young son was very seriously injured. One thing I found out on this trip is these terror attacks are actually premeditated, well-planned, and they try to do it in areas where there is no cell phone communication, so the people cannot get immediate help if they survive the attack. But eventually, he was found, they were taken to the hospital. What was unique about this visit is that David was not there. So we talked to his wife, Mrs. David Rubin, and she said, "Okay, okay, I gotta tell you my side of the story. So I get this call. When they found my husband, they called and said, 'Your husband has been the subject of a terror attack. We're rushing him to the hospital.' At that point, very little news." But she said she was at home with the other children, and she just said, "Hey, what could I do? All I could do was pray. Pray, trust God, and wait for more news." And eventually, they got him to the hospital. The son did survive, and eventually she got news. But it was so interesting hearing what it was like for the family, because we think, "Well, yeah, if I have been the subject of a horrible attack, I would be traumatized." But it affects the whole family. And so, as Gary said, they found it to be very important to provide this therapy to the entire family.

The next place we went to was the International Christian Embassy here in Jerusalem. They do a number of very important things. We met with Nicole Yoder, who is one of the vice presidents in the ICEJ, and she is the director of both the Aid Project that they provide, and Aliyah. I'll let Gary talk about the Aliyah program.

**Gary:** Thank you, Bruce. It really was special to be able to visit ICEJ, because for the first time, we were able to go to their international headquarters here in Jerusalem and see the building, meet others of the staff, and watch their daily function there. But we did meet with Nicole Yoder, who is, as Bruce said, really in charge of the actual working side of the Aliyah program. The Aliyah program, for those of you who don't know, is bringing people back from the Diaspora to Israel to live. And it's a lot of work. It's a lot of work that starts in their home country, trying to get the paperwork and everything lined out that is necessary for them to come into Israel, and prove that they are of Jewish heritage and they have a right to come to the Land.

It is a huge project. And of course, it's even bigger now because of things like Ukraine and what is happening there, and what has happened in parts of the former Soviet Union block countries. I think she was saying there have been, just since the beginning of this year, over nine thousand people who have made Aliyah. And not only do they bring them into the country by arranging the planes to transport them and the paperwork that allows them, they follow up; because there is a lot that goes into them being settled here in the Land. Again, at times these people are leaving their homes with what's on their back, and they have nothing. And so, many times they just meet them at the airport with a bag of just

household supplies that they will need when they first arrive and are placed at somewhere to stay. But they do find them places to stay. They help them in many, many ways to get settled in the Land, continuing on with their paperwork that is necessary. This is a tremendous project, and again, this is one of the areas that the Scripture entreats us and directs us to participate in the return that God is doing; because God is bringing His people back. But God needs the arms and the legs of those who are assisting in making that happen. And this is one of the great projects that we have a privilege to be a part of.

Did you want to read a Scripture relative to this?

**Bruce:** Yeah, I do. And I actually believe she said nine thousand just from Ukraine, and fifty-eight thousand from the former Soviet Union countries, just this last year since the Ukraine War started. So I was surprised at the large number of people making Aliyah to Israel during this time. And one thing I would just quickly say about Nicole; like with Simcha, she in a tremendous way expressed from the Scriptures, quoting many Scriptures to us, her love for God, her love for the Word of God, and her deep love for the people here in Israel. So she is serving from her heart by God's leading.

You know, with each of these organizations, we wanted organizations that we could meet with, have relationships with, see what they are doing, making sure that the donations are being effectively used by people who honestly have it in their heart to serve and love Israel; but in addition, organizations that are specifically working as part of God's hands, as Gary said, in fulfilling His Word. And this is a Scripture in Zechariah 8:7-8: "Thus says the Lord of hosts, "Behold, I am going to save My people from the land of the east and from the land of the west; and I will bring them back and they will live in the midst of Jerusalem; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God in truth and righteousness."'" And by us supporting this organization that brings these people back, it's amazing that we can participate with God in fulfilling His Word.

**Gary:** Right.

**Bruce:** The next place we went was the Israel Defense Fund Widows and Orphans Organization. We went to their headquarters in Tel Aviv and we met with the people there that are hands-on working with the widows and orphans. I am going to turn this over to Gary and have him explain it. But the one thing that struck me this particular trip was how different things are, the different feel – and I'm hoping I can get this across. It's different in Israel than the United States. There have been very few people, on a percentage basis, killed in wars that we know in our families in the US; but here, in the War of Independence, 1% of the country died in that war; and there have been five wars since then, and continuing terrorist attacks. And what I began to realize that I had never seen before is almost every family in Israel has somebody in their family, or a close friend, or somebody they know very close to them, who has been killed by giving the ultimate sacrifice of their life in protecting Israel. So there was a heart in this organization to really touch lives and families in Israel that I had never seen before. Gary, I'll let you talk from your heart about this.

**Gary:** Yes, it really is interesting, because when you study the history of the creation of Israel as a state, you know that, for one thing, the day after they declared themselves to be a state, they were attacked by multiple Arab nations that were set to destroy them and to literally end their existence in the Land. That attitude still exists today, and it has been repeated in other wars, as Bruce was saying. But you realize that the history of the wars is miraculous. When you study these wars, like the Six Day War, it's just miraculous. It is God moving in impossible ways that they have won every war. And like they say, you know, they can't lose a war; if they lose a war, they don't exist any longer. And that reality of the fact that God, every time, has come through just unquestionably – it's miraculous, the way that the wars

have been won here. But on the other hand, like being involved with the IDF, which is, again, the Israeli Defense Forces, you realize that those miracles were done not just by God, but by those who were His arms, His legs, the expression, the heart of what He was doing in bringing about the existence of the State of Israel and making a homeland for the Jews throughout the Diaspora to return to. It's really kind of a conflicting, almost, emotion when you get into it. But, this is so necessary.

The other thing about Israel is both the young men and the young women serve military service as a requirement, generally right after they get out of high school. They go in for several years in the military, and they actually continue after that in the reserves quite late in life. So the military – the Defense Force is not just the military, but the defense forces in Israel are an ongoing reality. It's part of the daily reality of life that the existence of this nation is dependent upon these people who are in the defense forces. So when we talk about the widows and orphans, we're really talking about both men and women who have been killed. It's not, as we would just think of, the men being in the service and a woman and the children being left if somebody dies in a battle. But this is both men and women that are killed in the battles here. And so, families lose daughters, and sons, and husbands, wives; everyone is impacted.

One of the deep hearts behind the Widows and Orphans Fund is really to surround these people and create a sense of family, and a sense of eternal understanding that the nation is not walking away from you, but you are going to be helped. You are going to have a sense of family, and a sense of surrounding, and that is really what I feel. I mean, there are many programs we could go into that they do that are very specific; but behind all of it is this heart that these people know that they still have family. They have family in the Israeli community. They have family in Israel, and the nation is there for them; and the nation never walks away from being there for them. And that, to me, is one of the greatest feelings that I get in working with the IDF Widows and Orphans Fund.

If you don't have any more on that, I would go to the next thing, which is the City of David Foundation. This is a little bit more lighthearted and fun. But, again, one of the things that we do on a monthly basis is to support the City of David Foundation, which is the archeological excavations that are taking place in the biblical City of David area. You know, for a long time, it was thought that Jerusalem proper was where people lived, and where David lived, and all that. Now we know that that isn't true. Off of the southern end of the Temple Mount, going down the hill, is where the actual City of David was and is to this day. And it's in the process of being unearthed – which is a lot of work, when you consider that some of this stuff is eight, nine, ten stories below ground, the current ground level; it's very difficult to get to. But it's amazing what is being unearthed. And what I love about this one is that it is constantly confirming the validity and the truth of the Scriptures. So I'm going to let Bruce pick it up from here and give you a little bit more detail.

**Bruce:** I do talk a lot about how exciting it is to come to Israel and see God fulfilling His Word – to be a witness, “Hey, this prophecy right here, I'm looking at the fulfillment of it!” Well, with the City of David, it actually, to me, is even a greater experience, because you get the feeling there of actually walking in the Scriptures. You can walk right through where they are now continuing to excavate, and finding where they believe the palace of David stood, in the top end of the city where the Millo was. You walk right below that, and you walk by some ancient Jewish homes where you can even see an ancient toilet. It's that much detail of how these people lived, and what they are finding there about the lifestyle of people during the Judaic kings of David's time, and following David's time, here in Judah. You walk down there to the pool of Siloam, which they are still excavating. They are finding out how large it was. And from there you can walk up what they are calling the Pilgrimage Road, which Gary and I had the

privilege to do; we were on a behind-the-scenes tour, because it's not open to the public yet. But we walked up this Pilgrimage Road, and you could just picture Christ and the Disciples walking up this road with us, because it would have been the exact road they walked up after doing the purification washing in the pool of Siloam, and going up to the Temple Mount for the Biblical feasts.

The other thing that amazes me is they are finding seals with the exact names of people who are named in the Scriptures. You can go from the Scripture to the seal that they have found and see the name. This City of David is only 5% excavated. So again, you get this feeling, "I'm so glad I contribute to this!" I can hardly wait to see what they find in the other 95%, and how, as Gary said, they are finding solid evidence of the Scriptures and what actually took place here in the kingdom of David, and Solomon, and the kings that followed.

**Gary:** Beautiful. It is really so exciting to go there, and I was really thankful that they recognized Hargrave Ministries and the donations that we do for the work there; even though, for me, I consider them very small comparatively to what I know the costs are of some of these excavations that are taking place. But they treated us wonderfully, and they gave us, as Bruce said, a behind-the-scenes tour, took us into areas that are just being unearthed right now. Some of the areas, they are not even sure what they are yet, because they don't have enough of it, you know, cleaned out and cleared to really figure out what it is. But it was a blessing to be there, and we look forward to coming back. As Bruce said, very little of it has been done; so we look forward to years of being able to come to Israel and see the Bible unfold before our very eyes in the City of David.

The last thing I wanted to do, because we have now covered the eight areas that we give to monthly in our support – and I would just add that at some of these, we did videos of our time there; and so, we will be putting some edited video on the Hargrave Ministry website in the support area for those who partner with us to see a little bit more in depth about the visit that we had with many of these people. But I did want to just add one thing, because, as I said in the beginning, we were here at this time because of the Jerusalem Prayer Breakfast. I don't know that a lot of people know or understand what the Prayer Breakfast is. You think, "Okay, prayer breakfast – you get together and pray. You know, there are all kinds of prayer breakfasts in the US." But I just wanted to give you the purpose of this, because I do think it is very unique. I have the privilege of having been part of the first encounter and creation of the Jerusalem Prayer Breakfast under Shlomo Hizak, and with MK Ilatov and Albert Veksler. This is now the seventh year that this is going forward. The purpose of it, really, if I try to summarize it clearly, is to give the nations of the world an opportunity to engage and be a part of the blessings of Abraham.

As we know, as Christians we are grafted in to the covenant and the promises of Abraham. But part of that meeting with God that He had with Abraham talked about Abraham being a blessing to all the nations; and I want to read it very quickly out of Genesis, the twelfth chapter, verses 1-3: "Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father's house, to the land which I will show you; and I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing; and I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.'" This, to me, is such the focal point of the Bible itself. We know as we come to the end time, we see that God gathers the nations; He's dealing with the nations of the world. And part of the vision of Jerusalem Prayer Breakfast is to go out, not just to meet here in Jerusalem, but to go out to the nations, have these prayer breakfasts in the different nations of the world, so that they have the opportunity to make their nations part of blessing Israel – blessing the nation, blessing the people of Israel – in order that their nation may be blessed. It is kind of



offering the nations a blessing on a silver platter, saying, “If you want to be blessed, we can tell you how that can happen for you, and your country, and your family.” So that’s sort of the focal point of it. And I’ll let Bruce add too, because I know he’s got some thoughts about this great Prayer Breakfast.

**Bruce:** Well, one thing they emphasized is that prayer is not just in the name, but prayer is what we do. And there was actually much prayer among the ones participating in this over the two days. In fact, Gary was one of the ones that got up and prayed in front of everyone. There was tremendous agreement and tremendous level of prayer. One fun thing for me is, they went back and talked about the last year, two, three years, where they said, “Okay, two years ago we prayed for this country that this would happen”; and then six months later, that country, it actually was a fulfillment of what specifically they prayed for. And I’ll give you an example. One of the mornings I had the opportunity to have breakfast with, oh, about a half a dozen of the parliament members from the nation of Hungary. They had talked about the fact that they pray in the Parliament building every day; and they had a prayer breakfast there where they were specifically praying for Hungary. The morning I sat and had breakfast with them and we were talking together, that very day Hungary announced that they were moving their embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, and recognizing Jerusalem as the eternal capital of the State of Israel.

Another example, we have been praying for Italy. The new government in Italy is comprised of many, many Christians, including one of the prime ministers who was at this breakfast. He talked about how their coalition, the Christians in their coalition, are praying for Israel, and wanting to align Italy with the State of Israel, and wanting to move their embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. And he said the same thing – “Why? Because it is the eternal capital of the State of Israel, and God’s Presence is there, and Italy wants to stand with Israel.” So it’s just fun to see that there is actual prayer going on throughout the world, and very specific answers to this prayer.

**Gary:** I want to thank you for being with us on this podcast. I know it’s a little bit longer than normal, but we had a lot to get across; and we could go quite a bit longer, but we will save you that. I just wanted to thank Bruce for this time here in Israel. What we have done together was a real privilege, and I know he is such a part of Hargrave Ministries. And I want to thank all of you for your involvement, for your donations, your help, your faith, and your prayers for all that we are looking to do and accomplish through Hargrave Ministries.

So, I ask for the Lord’s blessing on you. And again, I thank you, and we will see you in the next podcast. God bless.