

Dear Praying Friends, shalom!

This month I was interviewed by a good brother Jon Simmons from israelinvestment.org on the topic of **drug addiction, prostitution and sex trafficking in Israel**, and I would like to share this interview with you, if you are interested: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qnO1uGa-ths>

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At the moment, **15 people live in our men's Rehab center and Women's Shelter**. In the past, they were perfectly normal people. Among them we see former athletes, professional musicians, people with university degrees, former military men, etc. There are even those who grew up in Christian families. Today, however, they are people whom our society considers "problematic", and indeed, all of them, to one way or another, do not cope with this life, otherwise they would not have come to live in our homes.

So how did these people become "problematic"? With men, this usually happens due to alcohol or drug addiction. As for the women who live in our Shelter, all of them have experienced domestic or sexual violence.

As a rule, people do not even realize what **deep emotional wounds** are inflicted on women as a result of violence. Most of these women will never be able to live as normal people, and among other problems, they will suffer from severe depression and panic attacks all their lives.

The society, and often even believers, usually condemns these women for their wrong way of life or for the wrong choices they make, but it does not realize that what happens to them is in fact **the consequences of the violence** they had gone through.

The situation of the men who come to us is not simple either, because, on the one hand, they are responsible for their problems and no one forced them to start drinking or taking drugs. But on the other hand, all the addicted people grew up in **problematic families** and suffered from a lack of love. Of course, not everyone who grows up in problematic families becomes a drug addict or an alcoholic, but I can tell you with certainty that all the addicted people were lacking something very important when they were growing up.

Therefore, when we look at the men and women we are taking care of, we understand that if they had not gone through all that trauma, they would now live like perfectly normal people. We cannot explain why all this happened to them, but we know one thing: **if not for these tragedies, they might never have met their Good Samaritan - their Lord and Savior.**

When they come to us, completely broken and rejected by everyone, we, instead of condemning them, try to sympathize with them, and also try to understand, support, help them and, naturally, surround them with love.

And all this does bear fruit.

We praise the Lord that one of the ladies from our Shelter, **Betty***, **has just been baptized** and keeps making good progress! And we are also grateful that her father, who suffers from addiction, has just entered our rehab center. He has been an addict for many years, and it is the first time he has decided to start rehabilitation. Please pray for both father and daughter.

In the end of the month Lea* and her two children are going to move to a rented apartment and start living independently. She is very grateful for the time she spent in the Shelter and says it helped her very much. We have also welcomed **two new ladies** this month: Rebecca* and Martha*. Please pray for them and especially for Rebecca* who is very traumatized and takes a lot of psychiatric meds. Please pray for God's wisdom for our staff to help her (as well as all the other ladies) the best way.

Please keep praying for the new immigrants Eduard is taking care of. Last Friday we organized a **trip to Jerusalem, in which 47 immigrants participated** and which went very well. The believing guide showed them many Biblical places and explained the truths connected to them, and after the trip the immigrants went to Eduard's rehab in Ashkelon for a dinner and fellowship, where they could also hear short testimonies and receive a Bible as a gift.

Thank you all for your care and prayers!

Yours in Him,

Dov and Olga and Aviv Ministry team



Woman who came to eat in Aviv Center.



Ministry in Aviv Center.



Volunteers hold a lesson in the Shelter on the signs of unhealthy relationships.jpeg



Trip for new immigrants to Jerusalem.