



«For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost» (Luke 19:10)

MINISTRY UPDATE: NOVEMBER 2024

MICHA*'S WAY TO SALVATION

[Aviv Center is operated by a number of volunteer teams from different organizations. Igal, leader of the team from Netanya Messianic rehab, shares the following story.]

I met Micha* during the COVID-19 pandemic, when **Aviv Center** couldn't host visitors. Instead, we prepared and distributed meals to the homeless and drug addicts on the streets. One day, I ran into Micha*, who had just been released from prison and returned to his addiction right away.

When I approached him, he immediately said, "I'm not interested in talking about Jesus!"

I laughed, "How do you know that's what I wanted to talk about?"

"Even in prison," he replied, "people talk about you, believers who give out free food in Tel Aviv."

As we kept talking, Micha* looked at me thoughtfully and said, "You know, you look really familiar."



I shrugged, "I was an addict for many years, and my memory isn't the best. But a long time ago, the same Jesus you don't want to talk about found me and changed my life."

I told him about the rehab center where I now serve and suggested he leave the streets and give God a chance to work in his life. We parted ways with a handshake, and I told him I was glad we'd met. "Maybe we'll see each other again," I added.

Later, as Aviv Center reopened, Micha* became a regular visitor. One day, he finally told me: "I remember where I know you from! We were in the same prison together almost twenty years ago. Back then, you were a criminal, a total maniac, but now you're so different." This opened another chance to share the Gospel, but Micha* kept saying, "Now's not the time."

Still, God's Word kept working in his heart. Almost four years after we first met, Micha* came to Aviv Center and walked straight up to me. "I'm ready," he said. "Ready to go to the rehab center and try to change my life."

So, after our shift, we drove to the rehab center together.

In the rehab, we spent hours studying the Scripture, talking about sin, atonement, and why we need Jesus, – and two months later, Micha* repented and opened his heart to the Lord!

Please keep him in your prayers so that his faith will grow stronger every day. Amen!

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MIRA*'S HIDDEN TALENTS COME TO LIGHT

We praise God for every positive change we see in the ladies at our **Women's Shelter**. Qualities that lay dormant within them or were suppressed start to blossom. Here's a recent example.



Mira* has been with us for a few months. She once shared that for a long time she hadn't spoken to anyone, lived in terrible disorder, and barely had the energy to even open the door. It was like her very soul was behind tightly closed shutters.

Gradually, Mira* began helping in the Shelter's kitchen. Then, one day, the Shelter's manager, Tatyana, fell ill and had to rest at home due to back pain. Seeing this, Mira* realized that the others needed her, and she stepped up to help full-time in the kitchen. She took on the role without hesitation, earning herself the honorary title of "Head Chef" from us. But that wasn't all.



Recently, Mira* turned on the sewing machine and hemmed a skirt for Laura, our volunteer. When Laura's photo in her newly altered skirt appeared in the group chat, Mira* received a flood of gratitude. She responded, "I've always wanted to help people... I thank the Lord I'm in the right place for me!" She also expressed love and prayers for everyone at the Shelter.

For all of us, it's a great privilege to witness such transformations!

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ORDINARY ANGELS

Recently, Eduard, the leader of our **humanitarian project in Ashkelon**, learned about a family in urgent need of assistance. Tatiana, who has been living in Israel for five years, had recently brought her elderly mother, Tamara, from Ukraine after the passing of her father. Tamara requires constant care and uses a wheelchair. However, Tatiana's apartment is located on the third floor of a building with no elevator, leaving the family at a loss as to how to even get her mother to the Ministry of Interior for her initial registration.



Eduard and his team arrived to help, carefully carrying Tamara down the stairs, transporting her to the ministry, and then returning her safely back up to the apartment. Overwhelmed with gratitude, Tatiana exclaimed, "Who are you? What kind of angels come to help strangers like this?" Eduard responded, "We're just

ordinary people, but there is One who fills our hearts with the desire to be here for you." He then handed Tatiana a Bible as a gift.

Please join us in praying for this family.

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Thank you for your prayers and feel free to share your prayers requests too anytime!

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For more information and for donations please visit our website: www.avivministry.com

More news and prayer requests:

1. In Ashkelon, we're exploring the possibility of opening a **distribution center** alongside our current efforts of delivering humanitarian aid to people's homes. This center would also serve as a venue for social and evangelistic activities. Please pray that we secure the right location and staff to bring this vision to life.
2. Please continue praying for us to find the proper location and staff for our **planned Arab Rehabilitation Center**. It is a long and complicated process, but we are moving forward.
3. **Sergey, our new associate director**, has recently relocated to Beersheva and has started working full-time with Aviv Ministry. He is a great help and blessing! Please pray for his family's smooth adjustment to the new city and their new way of life.