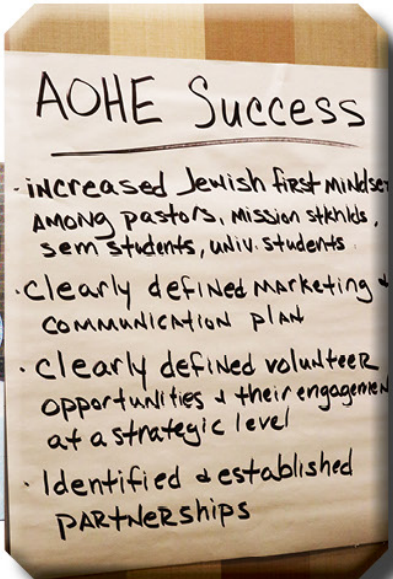




# August 1st, 2023 marks our 28th anniversary bringing the Gospel to those who do not know Jesus... yet.



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To the Jew First - Romans 1:16



www.appleofhiseye.org enhanced web presence



Pray for the salvation of Israel Rom:10:1



R.  
S.  
O.





# **YOUR JULY 2023** **Apple of His Eye Mission** **Society Newsletter** **is ready.**

PO Box 1649 Brentwood, TN 37024

## **On the front lines with Rev. Jordan Peiser**

**Have you ever thought to yourself,  
“I am interested in evangelism, but I do not know how to do it?”**



Or “I love Jesus and want to share that love with others, but most of my friends are already Christian.” I know I have asked myself those questions at times too! I want to share some of what I have learned during my first year as a missionary for Apple of His Eye and a Pastor at Zion Lutheran Church.

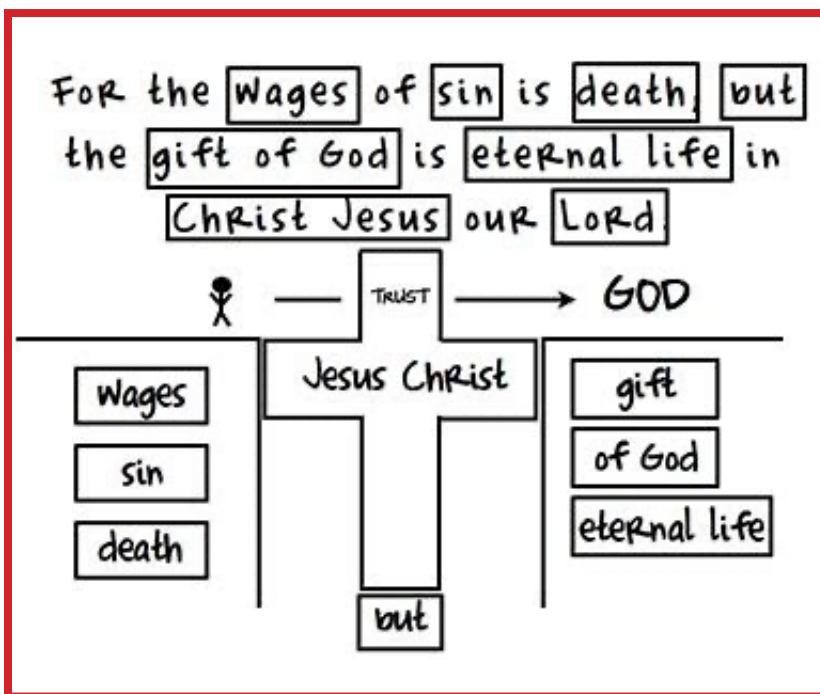
The first lesson I have learned is that sometimes there is great value in building your relationships with other Christians and being a Discippler (spiritual mentor) to that person. Perhaps you can invite someone who is new to the faith over for a meal or out for an event. You can take that time to get to know them and offer your friendship to them. As you do this, you may have the opportunity to share your stories and spend time in the Word and praying together. I have learned that discipleship is a two-way street. You’ll learn both from the experience of guiding people and from the wisdom and experiences the other person/people bring to the growing relationship. I have been blessed to see this happening in my own life and congregation as I build up others in their faith, and partner with them to think of ways to shine the light of the Gospel in our community.

I meet with one individual once a month to fellowship around a meal, talk about faith, pray, and participate in evangelism or hosting events. The discipleship has served both of us as we grow in our faith and think of more ways to share the reason for our hope.

*Continues...*

The second thing you can do is build relationships with individuals in your community. One of the things that I have learned in my training with Jews for Jesus is the importance of immersing yourself in the community you are trying to reach. And so, I have begun to attend events at a local synagogue so that I can learn from them and start to build relationships with people there. You could make it a practice to hangout at a local restaurant or coffee shop and get to know people there. You could pick up a new hobby and attend local events. Whatever you do, allow yourself to enjoy the place, people, and event.

If you do this, however, be careful not to make the attendance participation in the event about evangelism. I say that for two reasons. First, if it is about evangelism you may not let yourself enjoy the activity, and it will be easy to lose interest. Secondly, if you're there specifically to evangelize people are likely to figure that out, and you may shut-down the conversations and relationships before they have a chance to begin. Let yourself build authentic relationships with people, and use those relationships as an opportunity to shine the light of Christ by your speech, conduct, and friendship.



As you do that, you can grow in genuine love for the person as a person and find ways to share the Gospel in a way that can speak to them. The Gospel does not change, but the points we emphasize do as we learn to apply the word of God to the people around us.

In other words, if you find yourself asking, “well, how can I shine the light of Christ when most of the people I know are Christian?” I think we can have two takeaways. First, it is okay to begin by building or growing relationships with our brothers and sisters. Secondly, work on being a light in your community by being involved in the community. Two things will happen first, you’ll become more comfortable where you are and make some great friendships along the way. Secondly, you’ll find that there are a lot of opportunities for ministry where you did not see them before and you’ll find there are a lot of people who need the light and hope that Jesus brings.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Jordan Peiser

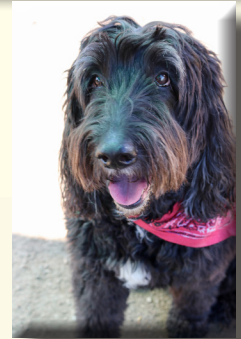
# MBWA



## Ministry by Wandering Around

By Steve Cohen

How hot is it? The temperatures in Georgetown Texas have been over a sizzling 100 degrees for the past umpteen days. This has meant we have to be creative to get out of the house with our pets, Sophie and Izzy, so that they do not become stir crazy.



Recently I took them to Home Depot for a walkabout. We went up and down all the aisles and around the inside perimeter in relative coolness. Every so often, people would come up and ask about the dogs who are very sociable and want to pet them.

One worker named Chloe was walking about the store looking for customers who might be interested in having a new bathtub refit. She acknowledged the dogs, approached me and asked me if she could ask a question. I told her I'd be happy to answer her question, but I asked if she would answer mine first. My question was, "What do you think of Jesus?" That led to a conversation on her upbringing in church. She had a tragic experience she had while in church years ago.

I told her that it is important for us to draw a clear distinction between the bad things that have happened even by those who named the name of Jesus and the actual teachings of Jesus.

She was interested in knowing more. "God was trying to get your attention. When we look at our lives and all the things that have happened that brought us to this point in time in this location and that you would approach me with a question, is it possible that the Lord wants you back?" I said.

I asked her if she had a Bible and she said that she did. And i encouraged her to take another look at the Gospel of Matthew and as you read it ask God this question, "is it possible that this is true and if so what should I do?"

She seemed eager to want to do so and I gave her my ministry business card and contact information so that she could take the initiative to follow up.



No matter where we go, I am convinced that God has divine appointments for us. Is is really important that we pay attention, be on the lookout, be prayerful, and be willing to engage with others that they might come to know the hope we have in salvation through Jesus our Messiah.

So, what's on your calendar today? Who is God going to bring across your path that you might invite them into a personal evangelistic dialogue on things eternal.

# NanC's Corner

## “Life Is Not a Picnic”

“Are they servants of the Messiah?-(I’m talking like a madman!) I’m a better one! I’ve worked much harder, been imprisoned more often, suffered more beatings, been near death over and over. Five times I received “forty lashes less one” from the Jews. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked. I spent a night and a day in the open sea. In my many travels I have been exposed to danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the desert, danger at sea, danger from false brothers. I have toiled and endured hardship, often not had enough sleep, been hungry and thirsty, frequently gone without food, been cold and naked. And besides these external matters, there is the daily pressure of my anxious concern for all the congregations.”

2 Corinthians 11:23-28 CJB



I have never really cared for picnics. First you make lunch, then you pack it in containers, then you pack it along with cutlery, napkins, condiments, blanket or tablecloth, etc. You must then unload, unpack, and then do everything in reverse when it is time to go home. Once home it all must be unloaded, stored or cleaned, and put away. That is just not fun. I grew up in Denver and at least one or two times a month in the summer, my parents would put us through this ritual for breakfast picnics in the mountains, usually by a creek or river. We had to dish soap the

bottom of a griddle before being used on the campfire, so that the pan would not blacken from the fire. Then fry up eggs and sausages. So, for me, I could say life *is* a picnic

Apparently, Paul felt that life was truly NOT a picnic. He shares a list of tribulations he endured, and it was based on his conversion and calling. Add to that he had an eye problem, and his life ended with his beheading in Rome by Nero.

Yeshua said: “I have said these things to you so that, united with me, you may have shalom. In the world, you have tsuris (tribulation).” John 16:33a Since the beginning of time, since Adam and Eve listened to satan and were kicked out of the garden, there has been tribulation. But the rest of the verse tells us: “But be brave! I have conquered the world!” John 16:33b. We have not been left without hope and tools from God to carry life’s “hits”. A lot of our problems can be traced to our own misjudgments and behaviors. But often, stuff just happens. I heard a sermon once that gave these points.

- **Tribulation is universal and impartial.** As an example: tornados destroy the wealthy as well as the poor, educated and uneducated, strong as well as weak.
  - 1Corinthians 10:13 says: “No temptation has seized you beyond what people normally experience, and God can be trusted not to allow you to be tempted beyond what you can bear. On the contrary, along with the temptation he will also provide the way out, so that you will be able to endure.”
- **Tribulation is painful.** War, hunger, emotional, physical, emotional, mental, relational. It is not fun.
- **It can come suddenly or be prolonged.** Unexpected loss through death, fire, nature (tornado, fire, flood). Or long-term illness, a wayward child, loss of job, home, child, etc.
- **It can be intense.** It can cause us to hurt so deeply, that those who try to care for us feel the pain.
- **Tribulation is often beyond our control.** It may seem that we feel helpless and have no answer for why God allows us to endure it. Remember Job.

*Continues...*

•  
Our knee jerk response is often Why? And Who?

**Why?** Jesus himself asked this question while on the cross: “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” Matthew 27:46 KJV. Our Heavenly Father knows His plans for us and has compassion. Having a baby is not a party, but the results of the birth are life-changing and precious. I always remember the verses in Romans eight. Unfortunately, people often throw out Romans 8:28, thinking this the pat answer to all of life’s ills. However, when we look at Romans 8:28 and 29 together we can get an overview of the goal of our trials. Verse eight says “Furthermore, we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called in accordance with his purpose;” God works all things for the good. For the good of whom? Those who love Him and are in harmony with His purpose. That is, living in God’s will for their lives. Verse nine gives us the answer to why: “because those whom he knew in advance, he also determined in advance would be conformed to the pattern of his Son...” Because He knew in advance our hearts and lives and wants us to conform to the image of Yeshua! Wow. If we will just stop, take a breath in our trials, and think – how will this conform me to the image of Christ? “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law.” Galatians 5:22,23 shows us the fruit of the Holy Spirit. These are evidence of the conforming God wants to bring about in us through our trials. James 1:2,3,4 “Consider it pure joy, my brothers, and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” Count it JOY because this trial will produce faith that produces tenacity. And the determination will finish the work in you to be mature, complete, and comprehending.

**Who?** It is human nature to ask the who question. There are three possible culprits: you, God or Satan. Depending on your conclusion of who – your response can move you to or away from the Lord.

Responses to your adversity:

- **Blame** - this response only heightens our anger and turns into bitterness.
- **Escape** - trying to avoid the pain of a situation through drugs, alcohol, sexual promiscuity only complicates the situation and brings greater problems.
- **Denial** - burying our head in the sand and denying the situation can just prolong the pain and frustration.
- **Self-pity** - is avoiding responsibility and accepting it. This will not lead to a positive end and prolongs or increases the negative outcome.
- **Seek the Lord** - confessing to our Heavenly Father our confusion and pain and asking Him to intervene in the situation. He will provide a way of escape through mending, confession, surrender and love. As a believer, this is the only valid answer.

The bottom line is to let your situation strengthen, stretch, and grow you into the perfect will of God. Accept your situation as a gift from God and remember He loves you and will never hurt you (that choice is in your corner). I have found that when I take charge of a situation, I am inclined to repeat it. God wants us to build our faith and morph into a life of His perfect will. It is only through trust and faith in His word and leading that we can walk a mature life of faith. Is it easy? Oh my...NO. However, it does get easier to trust Him after we strengthen our faith muscle. And, as we grow in Yeshua, we can foresee the obstacles that once brought us to negative life situations.

I pray this shared lesson will encourage and bless.  
Love, from my heart, nanC

(If this article has blessed you – share it). References taken from Complete Jewish Bible

## Jewish Prayer – Part three

Jewish Law makes it our duty to pray three times daily: in the morning, in the afternoon and at night-fall. These prayers are called morning prayer (shacharit), afternoon prayer (minchah) and evening prayer (arvith or maariv).

Our Sages tell us that the custom of praying three times a day was originally introduced by our Patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Abraham introduced prayer in the morning, Isaac—in the afternoon, and Jacob added one at night.

When the [Torah](#) was given to us at Mount Sinai, our way of life was set out for us by G-d. Torah means “teaching,” “instruction,” “guidance”; for the Torah teaches us our way of life in every detail of our daily life. The Torah contains 613 commandments. Among them is the command to “serve G-d with all our heart and all our soul.”<sup>4</sup> How do we serve G-d with our heart? By praying to Him. In doing so, we fulfill not only the commandment of praying to G-d, but also other commandments, such as to love G-d and to fear Him, which are separate commandments.

During the first one thousand years, or so, since the time of Moses, there was no set order of prayer. Each individual was duty-bound to pray to G-d every day, but the form of prayer and how many times a day to pray was left to the individual.

There was, however, a set order of service in the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, known as the Beit Hamikdosh, in connection with the daily sacrifices, morning and evening, while the evening sacrifice extended into the night. On special days, such as Shabbos, Rosh-Chodesh and Festivals, there were also “additional” (musaf) sacrifices. Accordingly, it was perhaps not unusual for some Jews to pray three times a day, morning, evening and night, in their own way. King David, for example, declared that he prayed three times daily,<sup>6</sup> and Daniel (in Babylon) prayed three times daily facing in the direction of [Jerusalem](#).<sup>7</sup> There is evidence that there were, even during the time of the first Temple in Jerusalem, public places of prayer, called Beit Ha’am,<sup>8</sup> which the Chaldeans (Babylonians) destroyed when they destroyed Jerusalem and the Holy Temple.

After the Holy Temple was destroyed and the Jews were led into captivity in Babylon, Jews continued to gather and pray in congregation. The places of prayer became like “small sanctuaries”—

Beit Mikdash Me'at,<sup>9</sup> during the years of exile, the children who were born and brought up in Babylon lacked adequate knowledge of the Holy Tongue (Hebrew) and spoke a mixed language. Therefore, when the Jews returned to their homeland after the seventy years' exile was over, Ezra the Scribe together with the Men of the Great Assembly (consisting of prophets and sages, 120 members in all) fixed the text of the daily prayer (Shemone Esrei—the “Eighteen Benedictions”), and made it a permanent institution and duty in Jewish life to recite this prayer three times daily.

Ever since then it became part of Jewish Law (Halachah) for each and every Jew to pray this ordained and fixed order of prayer three times daily, corresponding to the daily sacrifices in the Holy Temple, with additional (musaf) prayers on Shabbat, Rosh-Chodesh and Festivals, and a special “closing” prayer (Neilah) on Yom Kippur.

Thus, the main parts of the daily prayers were formulated by our Sages. These included the Shema prayer and [Shemone Esrei](#), which still are the main parts of our morning and evening prayers. The daily Psalm (from Tehillim) which used to be sung by the Levites in the Holy Temple, the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, became part of the morning prayer. Other Psalms of David were included in the morning prayer, and special benedictions before and after the [Shema](#) were added. By the time the Mishnah was recorded by Rabbi Judah the Prince (about the year 3910—some 500 years after Ezra), and especially by the time the Talmud was completed (some 300 years later, or about 1500 years ago), the basic order of our prayers, as we know them now, had been formulated. [https://www.chabad.org/library/article\\_cdo/aid/682091/jewish/The-Three-Daily-Prayers.htm](https://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/682091/jewish/The-Three-Daily-Prayers.htm)







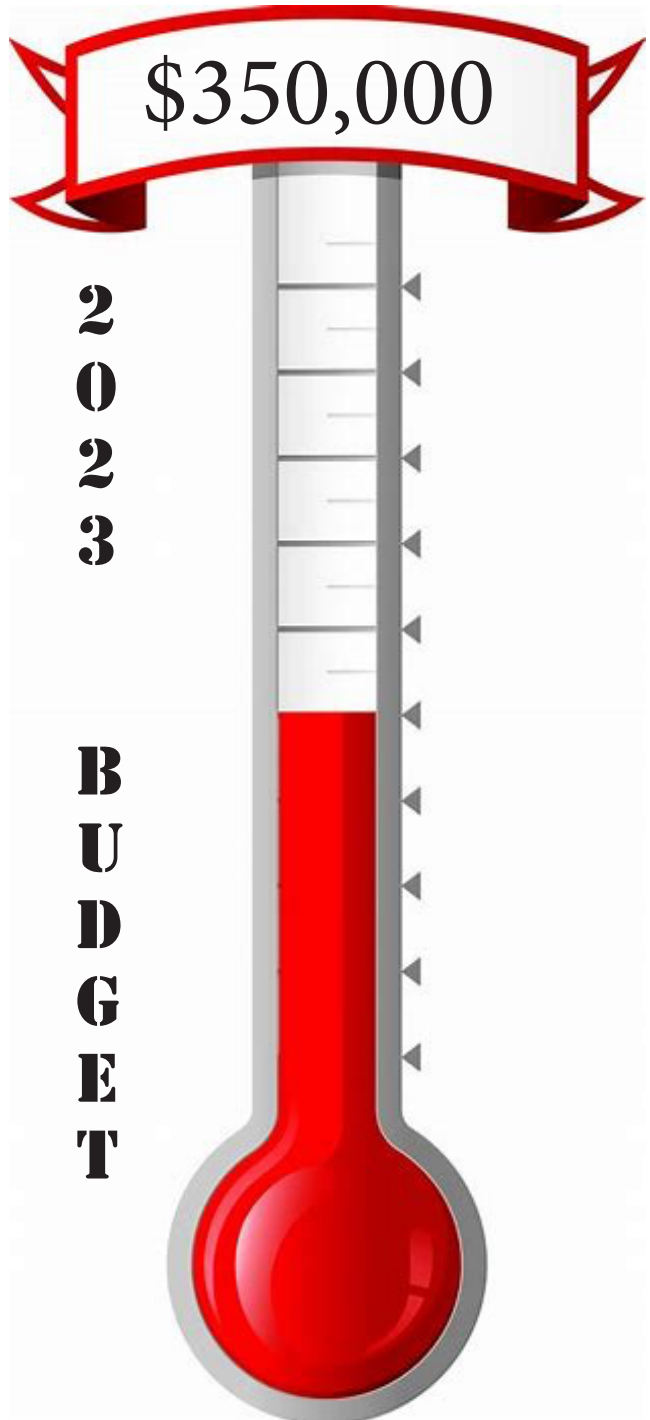


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**Thank you for  
your prayers and  
mission support  
this year.**

**Yours on behalf  
of all of us at The  
Apple of His Eye -  
Steve Cohen**





## Your prayers sustain us!

**Pray for Micha**, our son battling Huntington's Disease, recently taken off hospice care and put into palliative care as his weight has been maintained. Pray for him and his family for peace and joy in the Lord in the midst of this long-term debilitating disease.

**Pray for Pam**, a new Jewish believer who we recently met with, that she will grow in her faith in the Lord and be prepared for her baptism in the near future.

**Pray for peace in the Middle East.** We know that there is only one hope, and that is that the Prince of Peace, Jesus, would rule in the hearts of all there, Jews and gentiles alike.

**Pray for our upcoming travels –**

- July - traveling to Milwaukee to display at the National LCMS Convention.
- August - Jordan, Nancy and I traveling to Poland to attend the quadrennial International Lausanne Consultation on Jewish Evangelism.
- August - Nancy and I continuing travel by train to a few European cities for a brief vacation before our return to Georgetown, Texas.

**Pray for our volunteer Ken Ebright** as he faithfully goes out each week in the St. Louis area bringing the Gospel to people he meets on the streets.

**Pray for our Board Members** as they serve with us:

Rev. Randy Duncan – chairman  
Rev. Al Schade  
Rev. Dr. Robert Roegner  
Mr. Bill Lapp  
Mr. Kevin Voges  
Mrs. Kathy Graham  
Mr. Richard Powell – Adjunct member  
Mrs. Toileen Powell – Adjunct Member  
Mrs. Nancy Cohen – ministry adjutant

**Pray for an end to the rising tide of Anti-Semitism both here and abroad.**

**Psalm 51**