

The Gibsons

John, Joy, Zach, Hannah, Valerie
To the Jew First in New York City

SUPPORT

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July/August 2017

Shalom Haverim,

Greetings from the Big Apple! I can't believe the summer will soon be over.

MINISTRY UPDATE:

During much of July we took a short furlough, visiting eleven churches in three-and-a-half weeks. Every pastor and church seemed perfectly placed by God to encourage us in ways we didn't know we needed. Between meetings, we were blessed to see friends we have not seen in many years, and had an awesome family reunion with Joy's family. We are thankful to David and Karen Tinsley and Tom and Glenda McGuirt who ministered at Shalom Baptist Church while we were away. The church flourished, with several new families and individuals coming during that time.

In August, several IBJM missionaries and their families had a retreat and *outreach in Providence, Rhode Island*. We had a wonderful time of prayer, fellowship, and sharing the good news of Messiah. Please pray for the seed planted and Bibles distributed.

This month the Oshita family moved back to Japan, but we have embraced the Appolinaire family, believers from Burkina Faso who have recently moved here and have been attending Shalom. Starting a church in New York is much like starting a military church. People come and go frequently, but it's a blessing to be part of their lives: planting, watering, and harvesting. It was a joy to watch Mrs. Oshita grow in the Lord, and see the children take new steps of faith. Mr. Oshita says that he now believes there must be a God, but please pray for his and his son's salvation. We frequently hear from people around the world who have passed through Shalom. Last week it was Kenya, Japan, and Venezuela. We are blessed.

We sadly said a final goodbye to our dear Jewish friend Sy, for whom many of you prayed for years. Knowing Sy has been such an illustration of God's patient pursuit of man. Over the 25 years I knew Sy, he randomly met dozens of Christians who witnessed to him—on vacation, on college campuses, etc. He asked endless questions and at times seemed under conviction, but never surrendered (to our knowledge). Just a few weeks ago I witnessed to him again. He said he wished he could know he had a place in heaven, but could not surrender to Messiah Jesus. Are we sad? Yes. But we rejoice in the mercy of our God. We may yet see Sy in heaven, not because of what we observed, but because of who God is.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

The last week before school starts will be our *Vacation Bible School* (August 28-September 1), and after that, we resume our Thursday Art and Bible classes. In September will be busy with "*Messiah in the feasts of Israel*" outreach. Each year during the fall High holidays we hold evangelistic outreaches and services to reach the Jewish community with the gospel. During this time Jewish people are more aware of their spiritual needs and are more open to talk and come to such services as Shalom Baptist offers. We covet your prayers.

Shalom in Messiah Jesus,

John and Joy Gibson, Zachary, Hannah, and Valerie



With IBJM fellow missionaries in Providence, RI



Pray for these Dads to be saved



Pray for Papa Patterson



Pray for Miss Vivian, long time helper, stage four cancer (picture 2011)