Dear Prayer Partners,

Thank you for joining us in February to continue to pray for Israel. Your prayers are very much appreciated here in Jerusalem, and especially at the ICEJ Headquarters. Our prayers are a wonderful testimony in Jerusalem, because every time we tell our Israeli friends that millions of Christians are praying for them on a regular basis, it touches their hearts.

In recent weeks, we have seen some wonderful answers to prayer. One of them has been the decision of the US to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Jerusalem, which led other nations to do the same. This truly is an answer to prayer that our ministry has been contending and believing for since its establishment in 1980. Therefore, we rejoice in this wonderful victory!

Even though this is a time of rejoicing and thanksgiving, we should be aware that the enemies of Israel are working day and night to reverse and counter the recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. Therefore, we should not let our guard down, but continue to be watchmen on the walls of Jerusalem (Isaiah 62:6) and pray for the peace of Jerusalem. (Ps122:6)

The bible has many verses that help us pray effectively, but I would like to put an emphasis on the following two verses:

1. *”Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.” (Mark 11:24)*

When we pray, we should believe that God will answer our prayers.

1. “Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.” (Matthew 18:19-20)

We need to pray with others in unity and agreement, as God will be in our midst and he will do according to what we have asked.

Therefore, I would like to encourage you to find others to pray with, if you are not already praying together in a group. Maybe you can invite some friends that have a heart for Israel and pray together in unity and faith with them. God will answer our prayers in his perfect timing.

Thank you for joining our Isaiah62 prayer movement!

Shalom from Jerusalem

David Van der Walt

ICEJ VP Finances

**Prayer Points for the Month of February:**

1. **Pray for Israel**

Israel’s technology continues to be a blessing to the world. Developing countries especially benefit from Israeli agricultural technology, whether it is drip systems or apps that create efficient market places for small crop growers. Please pray that Israel will continue to shine bright and be a blessing in this area and that the world will notice.

Like other advanced countries, Israel has a high abortion rate and many are due to financial stress in families. Please pray that the nation would remember that we are created in the image of God and that no child should be intentionally discarded.

In recent days, Israeli PM Netanyahu has spoken with the leaders of several world governments, including a special trip to Moscow to speak with Russian President Vladimir Putin, to convince them to work towards preventing Iran from moving forward with its plans to threaten Israel from the north. Please pray for protection over Israel, especially over the northern border.

*“Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the Lord will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising.” (Isaiah 60:1-3)*

*“I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.” (Psalm 139:14)*

*“Behold, He who keeps Israel Shall neither slumber nor sleep.” (Psalm 121:4)*

1. **Pray for the Middle East**

The greatest strategic threat to Israel comes from the deployment of large numbers of Iranian-sponsored Shi’ite militias in Syria and Lebanon. Iran is taking advantage of the situation to menace Israel on its northern border, so please pray for the plans of the enemy to not prevail and for God to continue to protect Israel.

Another regional crisis erupted recently when Turkey sent air and ground forces into the Afrin region of northern Syria. The security implications of this situation for Israel are unclear, aside from the inherent danger from increased instability in the region. Therefore, please pray for God to move powerfully upon the involved nations.

The political/social situation in Egypt and Jordan, Israel’s neighbors to the south and east, are stable for the moment, but there is deep discontent among the populations of both countries that could bubble to the surface at any time. Pray for the peace of God to keep Egypt and Jordan content and at peace with Israel.

*“The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect.” (Psalm 33:10)*

*“For the mountains shall depart And the hills be removed, But My kindness shall not depart from you, Nor shall My covenant of peace be removed,” Says the Lord, who has mercy on you.” (Isaiah 54:10)*

1. **Pray for the ICEJ**

Please pray that God will raise up more financial partners for the ICEJ, just like he did in Rom 15:26-27. Pray for partners that will be pleased to stand with the ICEJ to be a blessing and comfort to Israel in a practical way.

The ICEJ HQ and projects in Israel, like the Haifa Home for Holocaust Survivors, Aliya projects and helping the needy and poor in Israel, are a wonderful Christian testimony of comfort and love. Pray that the finances will come in to bring the next 1,300 Ethiopians back home to Israel and for the expansion of the Haifa Home for Holocaust Survivors.

Pray with us to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus who is the author and finisher of our faith!

***“****For it pleased those from Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor among the saints who are in Jerusalem.****27****It pleased them indeed, and they are their debtors. For if the Gentiles have been partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister to them in material things.” (Romans 15:26-27)*

*“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.****8****And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.” (2 Corinthians 9:7-8)*

*“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,****2****looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”*