



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you” Jeremiah 29:11-12.

Living by Faith

My journey to Jerusalem started with reading a book written by Derek Prince called “An Appointment in Jerusalem.” Derek had witnessed countless miracles but also endured many trials. I was so impressed with his courage, for he trusted God for his provision. I had the unction to go to Jerusalem and help the Jewish people who were treated unfairly. Through planning and much prayer, I finally landed in Jerusalem with one small suitcase. Once there, I knew that I had to live by faith trusting God for my survival. I had seen other volunteers fast and pray for their needs. Sometimes the answer came quickly but other times they had to persevere and press in before relief came. I have enclosed some of our stories.

A Pine Cone and 200 Shekels

Graham, a co-worker who was struggling with finances, ran out of money. Feeling very discouraged he headed for the local park in Gilo, Jerusalem and sat on the park bench to pray. He beseeched God for funds needed for food. After awhile he got up and began to walk back home. On the way he accidentally kicked a pine cone and for some reason picked it up and found stuck inside 200 shekels. This amount was exactly what he needed for food for that week. He was so happy! God is faithful.

A Plate of Grape Leaves

Elizabeth another co-worker had no food on her shelf in the fridge. That particular Sunday, at lunch time, I said to her, “Let’s pray to God for your situation and He will provide a plate of food even tonight.” We began to pray and I happened to look out the kitchen window and saw a woman coming up the path. She was picking our grape leaves hanging over the garden wall. So Elizabeth quickly ran out to engage her in conversation. I could not hear what they were saying but they both took off down the path and disappeared around the corner. Two hours later Elizabeth came back skipping, carrying a plate of food (stuffed grape leaves).

NOTE: The woman obviously had to explain why she needed grape leaves and invited Elizabeth to learn how to make stuffed grape leaves with rice. So we sat down and had a feast!

A Package from England

Another time we were on the bus going home after work and I asked Elizabeth if she had her portion of shekels ready to pay the utility bill that night, but she said nothing. During our conversation she mentioned that her friend sent her a package from England. I asked her if there is any money enclosed. She said no, only English cake, but there was a strange note attached that did not make sense. So I asked her what it said. She said, “Be careful when cutting the cake.” I immediately told her that there was money hidden inside the cake. So when we got off the bus we both ran all the way home. As we entered the house the other co-worker was ready to go out to pay the bill and wanted her portion. Elizabeth quickly got the cake out from the package. She reached in the center of the open area of the cake and pulled out the plastic wrap filled with shekels bills. She had to provide shekels towards her share. So with a big smile on her face, she went to the other co-worker and handed her portion of shekels. God provides in amazing ways.

In scripture Jesus says, “I am the bread of life, He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he will never go thirsty” John 6:35.

Living in Jerusalem can be very challenging and one must be careful not to get discouraged as the answer will surely come if you believe. So where do you turn? The best thing is to turn to the living God...the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. “My soul, wait silently for God alone, For my expectation is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation, He is my defense, I shall not be moved. In God is my salvation and my glory, The rock of my strength, And my refuge, is in God. Trust in Him at all times, you people, Pour out your heart before Him, God is a refuge for us.” Psalm 62:5-8.

—CFI Volunteer, Burleson TX, USA