

IN RECENT MONTHS, I have thought often about the things God loves. I want to know what is important to Him. As we read through the Bible, God's love for Israel and the Jewish people is a constant theme. He made many promises to them, and today He is fulfilling those promises one by one. I believe that one of the greatest evidences of the faithful nature of God is happening in Israel before our eyes—the return (aliyah) of the Jewish people to Israel.

Roman and Natallia came from Ukraine with their two children—a teenage boy and a 6-year-old girl. They recently came to our center in Karmiel, where we blessed them with welcome gifts of blankets, pots and pans, school supplies for their young child and a Russian/Hebrew Bible. Natallia, who is close to giving birth to their third child, a son, became quite emotional when she saw what the gifts entailed. They moved to Israel, bringing very little with them. Setting up a home with very few resources brings stress. Our gifts relieved the stress and brought joy to their faces.

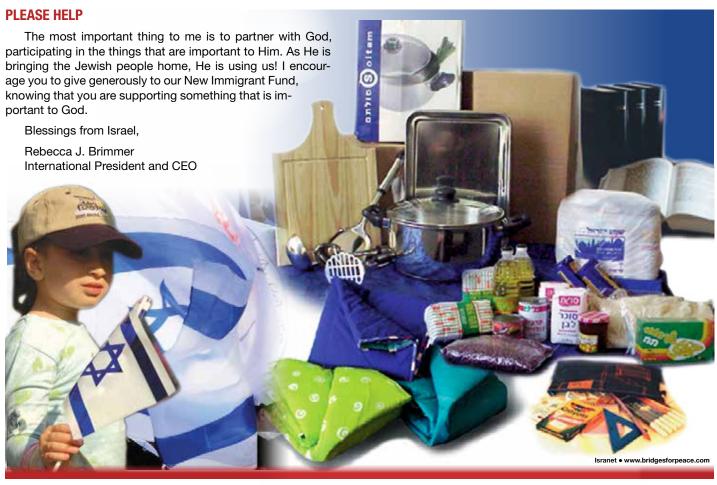
Vladimir and Elena made *aliyah* (immigration to Israel) from Russia with their children, Maxim and Eva. Our Project Rescue team in the former Soviet Union made it possible for this young family to overcome the hurdles to find the proof of their Jewishness, supporting them financially through the process and getting them to the airport. Now another family is in Israel, fulfilling God's promises to His people. Vladimir's grandfather survived the Holocaust and Stalin. Now his offspring are living the dream of Jewish people throughout the ages—to live in Israel.

We are approaching the busiest *aliyah* season of the year. In the summertime, multiple planeloads of new immigrants will arrive in time to get their children settled for school this September. We have been asked to help with the costs for their immigration. I sat with the Israeli government representative, Shumlik, as he expressed their great appreciation for the help of Christians in bringing the Jewish people home. God has used us, Christians who love God and are submitted to His Lordship over their lives, to help bring the Jewish people home. We consider it a joy to invest financially in the things that are important to Him.

Our leadership team will be at the airport to welcome hundreds of new immigrant families. We will cheer and encourage these new Israelis. We will do this knowing that we represent thousands of Christians around the world who support the things that are important to God.

In Ezekiel 39:28–29 (NASB) God says, "'Then they will know that I am the LORD their God because I made them go into exile among the nations, and then gathered them again to their own land; and I will leave none of them there any longer. I will not hide My face from them any longer, for I will have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel,' declares the Lord God."

Today, 45% of all Jewish people live in Israel, but many remain in the Diaspora (the Jewish population outside Israel). We want to help them come home. When God calls them, financial limitations should not stop them from fulfilling their destiny.



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| I will pray for Israel and the Jewish people. | |
| I also need your prayers and have attached my prayer reque | st. |
| I have placed Bridges for Peace in my will to bless future generations. | |
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