

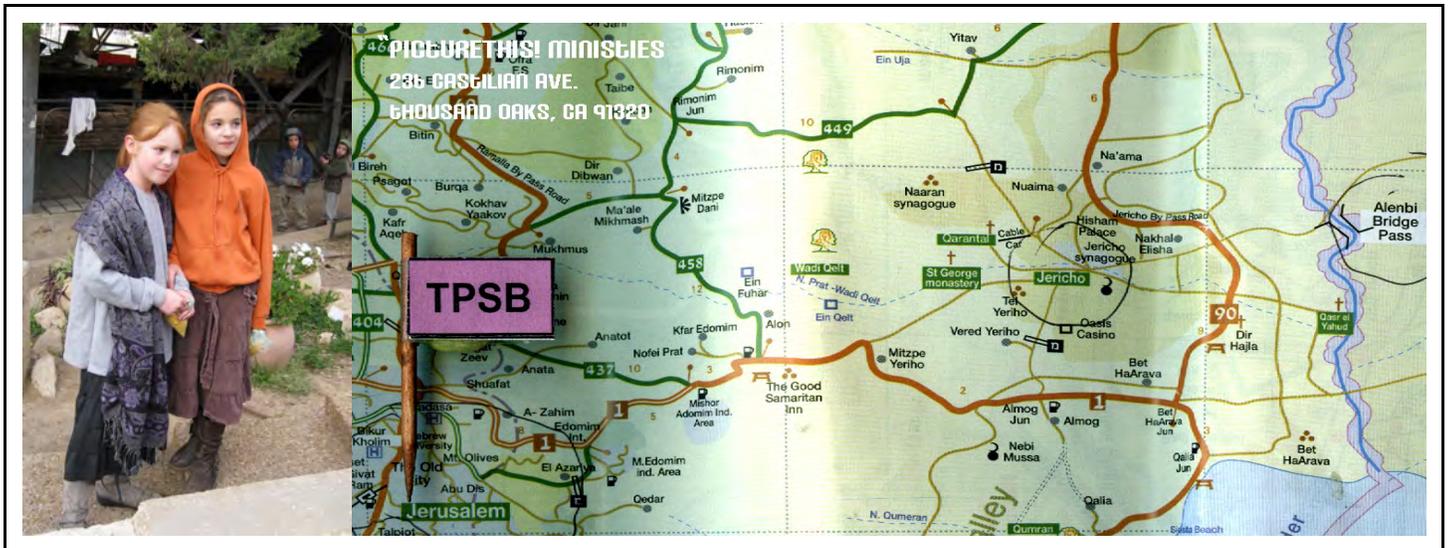
Put Joy Back in Bible Study!

“Picture This!” Prayerline

236 Castilian Ave, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320 (888) 499-9305, www.bibledraw.com Email: dpeters7@bibledraw.com

MARCH / APRIL 2011

The recent “Jerusalem Journey” is covered briefly with words and pictures on the reverse side. My original plan to exhibit in a Jerusalem book fair vanished when I learned that the event was not designed to exhibit our kind of product. God had another plan. Working through the Israeli government who discounted the trip almost 50% as promotion, and a generous friend who just wanted to invest in my trip, the Lord permitted me to fulfill a 30 year dream. Plus, when the pastor’s tour began to form last month, I sensed that this was to be more than a sight-seeing pleasure trip.



The tour was designed to allow some travelers to fly home after the 10 days while others could drive on to Jordan for more sights. I chose another direction for those 3 days, visiting with our friends in Jerusalem. Jan and Greg Kuske (left below) have been working with the poor from all nations, feeding, clothing and ministering in various ways for many years. They have now established a Non-Government Organization, working with refugees and Muslim villagers. My friends not only welcomed me with warm hospitality, they gave me a brief introduction to the heartbeat of Israel. At a local Bible study, I met David (on right), a man whom God said would be involved in establishing TPSB in that area. Jan introduced me to what seemed like hundreds of store owners, some of whom, we showed The Picture Smart Bible brochure. Benjamin, the manager of Jerusalem’s Christian Bookstore, was particularly interested. He provides curriculum for several churches in the area and he would like to become a distributor of TPSB. Our friend Jan, who has somewhat assumed the role of our rep in Israel, is now

teaching (with an interpreter) a home Bible study using TPSB. Soon they will move on to an orphanage. In 3 short days, God did what a book fair could never do- He established The Picture-Smart Bible in Jerusalem (and I’m believing, all of Israel).

Why the two Arab young ladies pictured above? Frankly, they and hundreds like them, turned out to be the purpose of my trip. We want to reach the next generation in every nation.



Israel Impressions

I was impressed that Jesus walked a **long way**, in His ministry... and to His death on the Via Dolorosa. Traveling miles over steep, rocky terrain as He did, was no small task. Our tour was packed with favorite sites: Sea of Galilee, Jordan, Dead Sea, ruins of Herod's masterpieces, ancient burial grounds- over 50 places in 10 days.

The Land. It is truly a land of milk and honey- vegetables, fruit, trees of all kinds in abundance, but there are rocks everywhere. Jesus' parable of the man who cleared the ground before planting a vineyard becomes real. And everything in Israel seems is uphill.

The "Relics". My impression was- when great discoveries were made, somebody rushed in quickly to cover it with a shrine. We walked through a very ornate cathedral, down several floors and looked in a decorated hole to see the birthplace of Jesus. Sometimes we were told, "it could have been here or on the other side of town".

The People. I loved the people- even the thousand vendors packed in cubicles they call a store. Once when talking to a weathered Jewish man (pictured) who was trying to explain that Abraham and Sarah were not in the decorated boxes (of which I had just shot pictures), but actually buried 30 feet below- I wanted to drop my camera and grab my sketch pad.



The Fiber. One cannot talk about the people of Israel without describing their hard core patriotism which of course, is grounded in their religious roots. Someone told me that only a small number of Jews believe in God. I think they are wrong.

Their commitment to God and His faithfulness is everywhere you look- from the dad teaching his sons the Torah on the street corner to the government buildings. The chairs in the Parliament meeting room are arranged in the form of a menorah. The assembly area displays three 20' by 20' tapestries showcasing the strong hand of God from Abraham's life to Moses and the 10 commandments.

The Scripture. Rosemary Schindler, our guide, gave us a Scripture at the beginning- Psa. 84:5-7, concerning those whose "hearts are set on pilgrimage". If your mind set is "arriving" you will always be unhappy. If on the other hand, your joy comes from precious moments in the journey, you will be a happy camper. Israel is the "starting point" for all of us- this is, by God's choice, where it all began and it is, by His choice, where it will all end. Israel is where we all find our roots. A new Jerusalem is coming down out of heaven soon and the real Ark of the Covenant revealed (Heb. 9:24, Rev.21:2).

Convention Season is Upon Us

Hallelujah! (Thank you for continuing to pray)

As announced in previous newsletters, we have signed up for 25 conventions- the most we have ever done in one year. The reason we can do so many of course, is because we have (very capable) reps across the U.S. Some of their "assignments" are posted below. Here is very brief information about the 3 ladies working with us in March/ April. This will hopefully help you attach a face with a name when interceding. Husbands are listed because representing PictureThis involves the spouse (and the children).

Rebecca (& Steve) Cox (left) are using PictureThis products to homeschool their 3 children. Rebecca has taught a broad range of educational disciplines in her work of course, as a mom, but also as a coop teacher. She has held many administrative positions both secular and Christian.

Nadja & Allen Cook (middle) have also homeschooled 3 children. Nadja was born in Germany, resided in Japan for 20 years and traveled extensively all over the world. Nadja's experience ranges from administration in broadcasting to exercise instructor to substitute teaching- while homeschooling.

Michele (& Bryan) Shaver (right) have homeschooled their own children and taught in coop groups. I have worked personally with Michele in the booth- she is an on fire "saleswoman" because she loves The Picture Smart Bible! Her whole family loves the product. Michele's oldest daughter, who travels in outreach programs, has recommended TPSB to the director of Home-school Friend in South Korea.



MARCH/APRIL CONVENTIONS

3/17-19	South East HS Conv.	Greenville, SC	Nadja Cook
3/31-4/2	Midwest HS Conv.	Cincinnati, OH	Michele Shaver
4/7-8	Alabama HS Conv.	Montgomery, AL	Nadja Cook
4/7-9	NWCEC Conv.	Redmond, WA	Dan Peters
4/15-16	MACHE HS Conv.	Rochester, MN	Michele Shaver