

# Ministering to God's Chosen

## CC Downey in Israel

story by Pastor Jeff Johnson

**CC Downey has traveled to Israel for many years, visiting various locations to have worship and Bible studies in the Holy Land. Four years ago, the church began an outreach called "To Israel with Love."**

Pastor Jeff Johnson, senior pastor of CC Downey, stated, "Israelis are now more open to the Gospel because of the toll that terrorism has taken. So for the last four years, we have reached out with humanitarian aid while sharing the Good News." Their recent outreach team ministered at a facility caring for terrorist victims and wounded soldiers as well as at the Hadassah Hospital Children's Leukemia Ward. Cards with Isaiah 43:1-3 printed in Hebrew were given to the families.

An ad had been placed in the local paper announcing a free concert by the Gutierrez Brothers, who accompanied CC Downey, in the town of Affula. This town has thus far suffered the most deaths from terrorism per capita in Israel. The team gave away supplies, but more importantly, they poured out their love upon the people. They were also given permission to go to Mt. Meron, an Israeli radar outpost normally off limits to visitors, where they ministered to military personnel.



*At the Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem, missionaries visit children who have been victims of terrorism, disease, and many other ailments.*

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*The Gutierrez Brothers minister at a military communications facility in Israel.*



*Hundreds of young soldiers listen to the musical ministry of the Gutierrez Brothers as well as a message of hope by Pastor Jeff.*



*The Latin music given by the Gutierrez Brothers ministered to many immigrants.*

The outreach continued in Galilee, then on to a military base, where they ministered to 200 men and women from the Israeli Air Force. Finally, the team hosted a concert near the Dead Sea, where 300 Israelis were receptive to the Gospel.

CC Jerusalem rented chairs and used their warehouse for the concert. "They had never done this before because they are located in a very Orthodox neighborhood, with many Muslims working across the street," said Pastor Jeff. "We saw God fill the place—not only with those from the church, but with neighbors and friends as well." The evening ended with a Gospel presentation by Pastor Jeff.

*To Israel with Love Outreach—2006. If you are interested in going, call: 562-803-5631.*

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