

## ***Shalom!***

Thank you for your interest in learning more about our opportunity to travel to Israel next June! Monday night we were able to go through the details of the brochure, see the land and many of the places we visited in 2009, and get a taste of Mediterranean Hummus! For those of you who couldn't make it on Monday, here's a few of the things we talked about....if you were there, here's a recap!

### **Why make this significant investment?**

Experiencing the land of Israel adds a whole new dimension to understanding God's Word. To walk in the Promised Land, the land given to Abraham and his descendants is incredible. This place has a deep spiritual impact on all who journey there. The landscape brings life to the phrases we so quickly read over in our quiet times. The unique nature of the land and people give insights into the challenges both in Jesus time and our own. This journey will also allow us to see and better understand the political, social, and economic situation of each area we're visiting.

The opportunity to grow in our faith together as friends as we traverse the land where the incarnate Son of God taught, healed, died for our sins, and rose from the dead is amazing! Simple phrases like "going up to Jerusalem" or "crossing the Sea of Galilee" will take on new meaning as we actually do it together. These places and this land may not always be accessible to us....but they still are now!

### **Details from the Brochure: Holy Land Classic, 2011**

Included in our Trip.....

...Roundtrip Airfare from Grand Rapids to Tel Aviv

...Deluxe Coaches

...Local Teacher and Driver

...Evening Educational Seminars in Jerusalem

...Entrance Fees to all Sites (Masada/Dead Sea visit is an optional trip at extra cost)

...1st Class Hotels

...Great Buffet Breakfast and Dinner Daily

...Tons of Fun!

**Trip Costs:** An estimate of our trip is as follows. Discounts are available depending when you register.

<b>Trip with Air from GR</b>	<b>\$2,896</b>	
<b>Gratuities</b>	<b>\$ 59</b>	
<b>Taxes/Fees</b>	<b>\$ 498</b>	
<b>Administrative Fee</b>	<b>\$ 90</b>	
<b>Trip Insurance</b>	<b><u>\$ 219</u></b>	<b>(optional, but recommended)</b>

**Total** **\$3,762**

Extras: Lunches, souvenirs, Masada/Dead Sea day, "Love Gift" for tour leader and driver, Extension Tours...

Barb and I would like to know who is interested before we begin the registration process. We would like to take a group of at least 10 people to make the trip a great experience for everyone. Here is a summary of registration and payment procedures. You will want to make sure your passport is up to date for EO to be able to process your registration, book airline tickets, apply for visas, etc.

**Registration and Payment Information:**

- 1) Early Registration Credit, regardless of how you pay. Save \$80 per person if you register by July 11, \$70/person by August 11, etc.
- 2) Can get an additional \$40 off if you pay by check for the whole trip 4 mo. prior – only with a check
- 3) You can register on line or by mailing in the Registration Form. It is very important to use our group ID number, **51555**, to insure we all travel together! You can pay the \$300 deposit with your credit card when registering on line. Further payments are made when you call them in, and processed at that time.
- 4) E.O. will send you a statement when they receive a payment. There is no billing. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure, March 9, 2009
- 5) Do not purchase Travel Insurance until just before that 90 day date. If you'd need to cancel prior to that you would still be reimbursed everything you've paid minus the \$90 administrative fee.

**These details can seem overwhelming, but important and necessary to facilitate your budgeting over the next year to make this journey a reality!**

Please let us know no later than August 1 if you'd like to GO! We'll give you the green light to go ahead and register as soon as we have 10 confirmed travelers. You're encouraged to spread the word and invite friends/family that you would enjoy having along on this trip of a lifetime! Our prayer is that this journey will have as profound an impact on our lives as those who have traveled before us. We ask God to give us a sense of wonderment, awe, and excitement as we "walk through the length and breadth of the land" (Gen. 13:17) together!!

Pastor Bob and Barb DeVries

