

NETIVAH בית הבחנה update

Dear Friends,

As 2020 is drawing to a close, many of you would agree that it has been a crazy year both here in Israel and worldwide.

Despite the challenges we have seen, the Lord at work in our midst and look forward to what He has for us all in 2021.

Thank you for standing with us.

Your prayers and support are a vital part of our ministry.

This past year at Netivah we have had to rethink how we do ministry and how we can effectively reach out to the young people around us despite the many restrictions. Currently the youth in Israel are studying remotely at home via ZOOM, with very limited time in school or social activities. Any opportunity they have for fellowship and recreation is precious and cherished. To accommodate this situation many of our programs had to be revised and adjusted several times to meet the varying limitations. Nevertheless, we have seen the hand of God at work and rejoice in the unique opportunities we have had to reach out to the youth, soldiers and youth leaders and are excited to share this with you.

➔ What happened lately?

October 15 – "Arrows" (Chetzim)

Program Graduation. We streamed the graduation live with no additional guests attending other than the staff and participants. However, it was wonderful to hear the testimony of a few of the graduates of what Yeshua had done in their lives over the past two and a half months. Of the 19 graduates seven of them are already in the military and the others are waiting for their draft date. We continue to keep in contact with them.



This Fall we placed two big tents outside of the office and ran walkways from the office to the tents in order to enable us to gather a smaller number of people outdoors (to match the restrictions of 20 people permitted to meet outside at one time). A bonus to this is that the Netivah center sits on the Israeli National Trail and many hikers stop in for the night, using the tents and the outside facility. It is such a joy to talk and share with them and give them a place to rest, a decent shower and shelter for the night.

November

Because of the COVID-19 restriction, we had to postpone **the Soldiers Conference** scheduled for November, but instead of dropping it all we planned two weekends where 20 soldiers were invited for a meal, fellowship, worship and a devotional. It was a blessing for the soldiers who have been out of fellowship for so long. It went so well that we plan to do this again as soon as the restrictions for gatherings are lifted.



December

Youth leaders regional gathering – Again, due to the restrictions, we were unable to have our annual youth leaders conference, so we decided to meet the youth leaders in regional small groups (up to 20). Our first meeting was at Beit Eliyahu Congregation in Haifa. AND IT WAS SOOOOO GOOD! We are scheduled to have our next meeting (Lord willing) in Jerusalem during January or February as we are under strict travel and gathering limitations for the next few weeks.



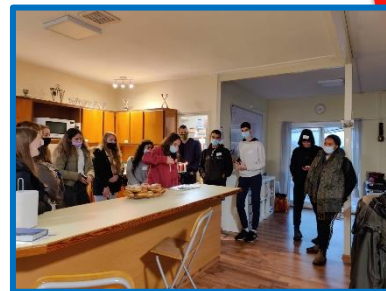
"After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To Him be dominion forever and ever. Amen."

1 Peter 5: 10-11



Youth

We began to do **one day youth gatherings** with 20 youth at a time using the outdoor tents. We enjoyed a meal together, with teaching, time of worship and fellowship. Our first meeting was with teens in the 11th grade since they are at a critical stage due to the first military screenings. We talked about how to be a true servant in God's eyes and also went over the process they will be going through in their first military checkup. The next gathering will follow as soon as the restrictions are lifted.



Junior Leadership Training – We continued our program for 11th and 12th grade Junior Staff. Our first meeting was in October where we still were able to have gatherings in capsules of 20, but unfortunately, we have had to postpone our next training weekend as restrictions got tighter and the numbers became more limited.



Media – We continue to put out the 'Mamash Po' ("Right here") Videos, at the first of every month, in order to provide the youth and leaders with quality materials for learning about the Biblical sites and bring to life the Word of God. We had an opportunity during this time to work on our Netivah Website providing teens, soldiers, youth leaders and parents with relevant materials. We have also launched our own **Netivah App** on AppStore and Google Play in order to make all of our teachings, videos, and materials readily available.



Youth Leaders

We are feeling that many youth leaders need to be personally encouraged and supported in their challenging work especially during these difficult days. In order to reach out to them Joel has committed one day a week to meet with different youth leaders from around the country face to face (with masks) for coffee or a meal. This is a great opportunity for him to hear their struggles and testimonies first hand together with encouraging and praying with them.

We are happy to let you know that **Randy Sigulim** is back working on the Netivah team in a leadership role after spending the last two and a half years in the US serving with a local congregation in Sacramento. Randy and his wife Miri have two small boys Yishai and Asaph.

On a personal note:

- Rose and Elad had a baby boy named Omri
- Hadar got married to Uziel in December
- Please keep Randy and his family in your prayers as they adjust back to life in Israel and settle into their new home in Rosh Ha'ayin in March

➔ **Prayer and Praise Requests:**

- Please keep on praying **for us at Netivah** as we strive to connect and provide opportunities for fellowship (even in small numbers) and create new online tools to encourage and support the Body.
- Pray that we will be wise and creative as we seek to be relevant and effective in reaching out to the youth and soldiers. That we may be a support for them and the youth leaders during the Corona time and after.
- Please continue to pray **for the young people** in Israel who are isolated and restricted that they may find hope and comfort in Yeshua during this time.
- Pray **for the believing soldiers** during these days. Many of them have restricted leave. If they do get leave, they are confined to their homes, which in both cases does not allow time for fellowship with fellow believers.
- Pray for **Zechariah**, who will be joining our Netivah staff in the Soldier's Department in January. He is a full-time student and will need to balance his time between work and studies.
- **Niveen** – Please pray for Ibrahim's wife Niveen, she is still going through extensive rehabilitation. Pray for Ibrahim and the family to be strong once again as they go through this time.
- **Larger Facility** – we continue to have a need for a larger facility to house our youth. Please pray with us for a solution in the near future.
- **4 x 4 Vehicle** – We continue to have a need for a 4x4 vehicle. We are 70% there, thanks to all who have contributed. If you have an interest in investing in this Vehicle Project please be in contact with us directly.

These are trying days, and yet I pray that we continue to seek God's will and trust His love, grace and provision. We understand now even more than ever how important it is to provide a place for warm fellowship and love for these young people. May we be obedient and diligent as we serve His flock no matter how far away or how lost they may seem.

Thank you for your prayers and support for the work here in Israel.
Yours in Yeshua our Lord,

Joel Goldberg and the Netivah Team.

Partner with us to support and impact the lives of the youth and soldiers in Israel by donating to NETIVAH at:

www.netivah.com

---our Facebook page
Netivah Merkaz

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ROUTING NUMBER: IL010680
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