

# ISAIAH 62 PRAYER INITIATIVE

## Prayer Letter for April 2019

Dear prayer partners,

Thank you for joining us in focused prayer for the month of April 2019. Hebrews 12:28 says, *“Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe...”* (NASB) Therefore, let us pray to our God with gratitude, and willingly offer Him our acceptable service!

Praying together every month throughout the year is special and powerful. Therefore, let us be grateful to God for choosing us to partner together in prayer in these special days. As we reflect on everything God has done to restore Israel, let us also look forward to all He will continue to do.

Isaiah 66:18-20ff says: *“For I know their works and their thoughts. It shall be that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come and see My glory. I will set a sign among them; and those among them who escape I will send to the nations: ... who have not heard My fame nor seen My glory. And they shall declare My glory among the Gentiles. Then they shall bring all your brethren for an offering to the Lord out of all nations, on horses and in chariots and in litters, on mules and on camels, to My holy mountain Jerusalem,” says the Lord, ‘as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the Lord.’”*

As I read these verses, I see Jesus as the sign to the nations. Followers of Jesus from the nations are called to bring the Jewish people who have been scattered throughout the world, back to their promised biblical homeland: Israel. When we partner with God in this work, the Lord says He will receive it as a pleasing offering.

My heart rejoices with gratitude that we are the generation blessed to cooperate with our Lord in this process of restoring Israel. We are the generation that gets to see God redeeming Jerusalem. Therefore, we are called and empowered by His Holy Spirit to show comfort to His people. Isaiah 40:1-2 says: *“Comfort, yes, comfort my people!” says your God. ‘Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.’”*

As we seek the Lord in prayer this month, let us give thanks to Him, who brought us into His unshakable Kingdom.

Shalom from Jerusalem!



Barry R. Denison  
Vice President of Operations  
International Christian Embassy Jerusalem

## PRAYER POINTS

For April 2019

*The next day of prayer and fasting in our Isaiah 62 Global Prayer Campaign will be on **Wednesday, 3 April 2019**. Please join us!*

### 1. Pray for Israel

#### Gaza Border tensions

Israel has again come under attack by rockets fired by terrorist groups in the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip and the IDF has retaliated with heavy strikes against Hamas targets. The weekly violent anti-Israel protests along the Gaza border fence are also picking up steam again as winter gives way to warmer weather. At the same time, protests by Gazans against oppressive Hamas rule have been met with a brutal crackdown.

Please pray that the anger and frustration of the people of Gaza would be directed at the true source of their oppression and lack – Hamas and its relentless, futile drive to impose Islamic sharia law over Gaza and all the Land of Israel. Also pray that Israel's hedge of protection against harm from Gaza, whether through the IDF or the Lord Himself – will hold fast in the days and weeks ahead. Pray that the young IDF soldiers defending the border would act with the proper wisdom, courage and

restraint needed in each situation. And pray that the ICEJ would continue to be a source of encouragement and real-time, practical help through the many bomb shelters, firefighting units and other safety equipment we have provided for the Israeli communities most under threat along the Gaza border.

*“But the Lord is faithful, Who will establish you and guard you from the evil one.” (2 Thessalonians 3:3)*

*“These are the things you are to do: Speak the truth to each other, and render true and sound judgment in your courts;” (Zechariah 8:16)*

### April Elections in Israel

National elections will be held on April 9<sup>th</sup> here in Israel, so this could be a month with much societal tension and political drama between the different parties. Even after the results are in, it could take weeks before a governing coalition can take shape. Please pray with us for God’s shalom to cover this election season here in Israel. Pray for the right leaders to be placed in the right positions to help lead this nation in the ways of the Lord. Pray against a muddled result, but rather that there would be a clear decision by the people coming of this election, giving the prevailing leaders a solid mandate to move forward in the right direction for Israel.

*“Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, ‘This is the way, walk in it,’ whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left.” (Isaiah 30:21)*

## 2. Pray for the Nations

### ICEJ Campaign to Impact UNHRC

Recently, the UN Human Rights Council adopted five very biased resolutions against Israel. This time, European nations, Australia, Brazil and Togo voted against or abstained. The ICEJ is now working through our national offices in key member states of the UNHRC to further impact its decisions to be fairer towards Israel. Pray for our efforts to see to an even greater change in voting patterns at the HRC and other international forums within the UN system. Pray for governments to have the courage to stand for the truth and to call out the anti-Semitic diplomats and NGOs on their efforts to delegitimize Israel.

The ICEJ has been active on other global issues as well, so pray for God to use our international branches to take a united stand and have favor with their

governments on Israel's behalf. Pray especially for more governments to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital and to move their embassies there from Tel Aviv.

*“Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing?” “He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The Lord shall hold them in derision. Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure: ‘Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion.’” (Psalm 2:1, 3-4)*

### International Branches & Tajikistan

The ICEJ has over 90 national branches around the world. Please pray for each of these branches to be united, strengthened, and encouraged in the work that God has called us to do. Please also pray for the nation of Tajikistan, as leaders from this nation desires to connect their churches with Israel. Please pray for the protection over the churches and leaders from persecution as they are reaching out to connect more with Israel.

*“We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of His will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to His glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience,” (Colossians 1:9b-11 NIV)*

### 3. Pray for the ICEJ

#### New Opportunities at our new ICEJ Home

We are excited to be in our new headquarters in Jerusalem, because we have seen many new opportunities arise from the connections we have made with our new neighbours. Please pray for God to continue to use us as His light in this new building and to give us favour with more people in this neighbourhood and throughout Jerusalem and Israel.

*“Let each of us please his neighbour for his good, leading to edification.” (Romans 15:2)*

*“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)*

## Healing

There are many friends of the ICEJ who are in great need of God's miraculous healing. Please pray for God to bring healing to Shmuel Smadja, and healing from cancer for Eddie Santoro and Kathrin Nabeel. Pray also for healing and divine protection over the ICEJ staff in Jerusalem and our global team around the world.

*“Bless the Lord, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases.” (Psalm 103:1-3)*

## Passover & Resurrection Sunday

We will be celebrating Passover and Resurrection Sunday this month. We will be reaching out to over 2,500 people throughout Israel this Passover by providing them with community Seder meals and holiday gift baskets. Please pray for God to bless these Israelis during this special holiday season, and that more Israelis would have their eyes opened this Passover season to the true Paschal Lamb, whose blood covers our sins.

Also, pray for all the Body of Christ worldwide to have our eyes opened this Resurrection season with fresh revelation of the Lord's love for Israel and the redemptive truths for all so beautifully hidden in the symbolisms of Passover. Finally, ask the Lord to give our staff in Jerusalem a greater taste and measure of the amazing power that raised Christ from the dead right here in this very city!

*“Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Pick out and take lambs for yourselves according to your families, and kill the **Passover lamb**. And you shall take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. And none of you shall go out of the door of his house until morning. For the Lord will pass through to strike the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the Lord will pass over the door and not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to strike you. And you shall observe this thing as an ordinance for you and your sons forever. It will come to pass when you come to the land which the Lord will give you, just as He promised, that you shall keep this service. And it shall be, when your children say to you, ‘What do you mean by this service?’ that you shall say, ‘It is the Passover sacrifice of the Lord, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt when He struck the Egyptians and delivered our households.’” And the people bowed low and worshiped. (Exodus 12:21-27)*



*“Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us...” (1 Corinthians 5:7)*

**Thank you for joining with us in prayer!**

