

YOUR JULY 2024

Apple of His Eye

Mission Society Newsletter

PRINT EDITION TO SHARE

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**SHALOM! YOUR GIFT OF MISSION
SUPPORT AT THIS TIME IS ESSENTIAL
TO OUR ON-GOING MINISTRY.
YOUR PRAYERS ARE CENTRAL
TO OUR WORK, TOO!**

***But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.
Acts 20:24 ESV***

FINISH-IATION

By Steve Cohen

As the 2024 Olympics come on the horizon, thanks to the wonder of mass communication, we will be able to see a myriad of competitors go from the starting line to the finish in sprints, midrange and marathon races. These competitors from over 200 countries have dedicated years of sweat and tears to have a shot at being the best in the world of their discipline. *It will be exciting as we watch the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat.*

This September, the Lord willing, I turn 75 years of age. It is hard to believe as in my mind it seems like I was just in my 40's and 50's. While my steps may be slower than the past, my passion to see the lost found in the Lord's kingdom has not diminished.

I still recall that cool August day in 1972 when, while standing on a hill in Seattle, a man drove up to me in a big black Lincoln Continental. He got out of the car, walked up to me and said. *"I have a message from God for you! You are to study the Bible, come to faith in Jesus as your Messiah for your mission in life is to bring the Gospel to your Jewish people!"* (Pause for thought)

Little did I know how the Lord prepared me to do what I really did not want to do, move to New York City and reach our people in the largest concentration of Jewish people in North America. But it was indeed there that I gained my journeyman sta-

tus as a missionary, and then moved from place to place to hone the craft. MY biggest lesson from it all was not that I have great talent or ability.

I had the one thing the Lord desires of each of us... **our availability** to serve wherever we are and whenever we are granted opportunities to shower others with the Lord of the Lord.

The life of a disciple is not to be compared to a sprint or a fifty-yard dash. No,

it is much more like a steeplechase or ultra marathon – pacing ourselves with proper spiritual preparation and armor for the battles to come.

This summer, Nancy and I took a brief vacation to go to Holland, Iceland and Scotland. Along the way, we met several Jewish people who, like us are sojourners on this earth. Rose was a server at our hotel in Haarlam. She noticed Nancy's Magen David (Star of David) and it sparked a conversation about her Jewish background. Rose indicated that someday she wanted to go to Israel where Nancy lived for seven years. I left her a copy of my personal testimony book, Disowned, and invited to read and let me know what she thought of Jesus. Please pray for her salvation!

Each day the Lord brings people across our path who need a word of encouragement and hope. YOU can be one who brightens their day and invites them to join in the journey to the cross that they might receive the greatest reward of all, the free gift of salvation.

So, enjoy the 2024 Olympics, but even more than that, ask yourself who you can be praying for regarding salvation and sharing your faith with them. **Let's finish well in Christ!**



It's Time to Get Serious

"Finally, grow powerful in union with the Lord, in union with his mighty strength! Use all the armor and weaponry that God provides, so that you will be able to stand against the deceptive tactics of the Adversary. For we are not struggling against human beings, but against the rulers, authorities and cosmic powers governing this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realm. So take up every piece of war equipment God provides; so that when the evil day comes, you will be able to resist; and when the battle is won, you will still be standing." Ephesians 6:10-13

The Apple of His Eye Mission Society focuses on personal evangelism and teaching others how to do the same. Steve and I have been at this for over a combined 92 years. I have had the personal joy of winning others the savior and witnessing them doing the same. Logically, with the number of years we have been at this, one would think the churches would be bursting from the people reached for Yeshua by the body of Christ! But it just isn't so. We hear, "It's just not fun. It's just too hard to memorize God's Word or at least familiarize oneself with passages of hope."

Yeshua said in Matthew 4:19 "Follow me and I will make you schoolroom painters, water distributors, food banks, campers for social inter-action, daycares, Bible study leaders, etc.". Oh...oops! Nope! Yeshua said, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men."

It's time to get serious!

While the world is consumed with the Olympics, vacations, school, summer break, Taylor Swift, football, soccer, etc., the enemy is taking it to hell. Our country is a battleground. It's as if Christians aren't even making a dent. Growing churches are being criticized for being large!! It's a backwards society. Antisemitism is escalating, hate groups are growing and our country is dividing more and more. And now we are shooting our leaders and each other.

It's time to **STOP** and realize who is in control of our society, our world. Believers, we are in a warfare with Satan. There is still hope for our country, our churches. I recently heard the following and wept at the timeliness!! Pray for open hearts as you read.

In warfare, you should study the opposing general carefully, because victory is often about out-thinking the enemy.

"Satan can't tamper with anything in your life and mine other than what Almighty God allows."

Our enemy is ...

- Not just the Devil but also his kingdom ([Ephesians 6:12](#)).
- Powerful (v. 11).
- Limited—not omnipotent, omniscient, or omnipresent (v. 13).

With regard to unbelievers, he might try to ...

- Disturb their mind and emotions.
- Hinder decisions that would bring God glory.
- Blind them to the truth ([2 Corinthians 4:3-4](#)).



- Steal God’s Word from them ([Mark 4:13-15](#)).
- Oppose the gospel and the teaching of Scripture.
- Prevent them from believing.

“Satan will do everything in his power to keep us busy doing good things and therefore out of the Word and off our knees.”

With regard to believers, Satan cannot cause demon possession.

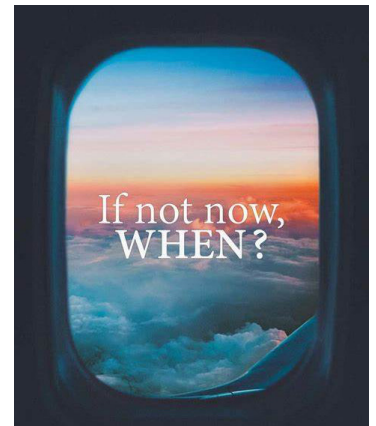
However, he might try to ...

- Cause us to forget what God speaks to our heart.
- Tempt us to sin.
- Stunt our spiritual growth.
- Prevent us from reading the Bible and praying.
- Stop us from acknowledging God’s greatness.
- Distract us and divide our mind.
- Lull churches to sleep and cause them to lose their passion for evangelism.
- Attack the Bible.

“We are God’s created beings indwelt by the Holy Spirit. He that is within you is greater than he that’s in the world.”

How should we respond to our enemy?

- Be alert to his presence ([1 Peter 5:8](#)).
- Don’t give him an opportunity ([Ephesians 4:27](#)).
- Put on the armor of God every morning (6:11).
- Resist the enemy, drawing nearer to God ([James 4:7-8](#)).
- Accept the salvation of Christ ([Romans 10:13](#)).
- Gather with fellow believers to be strengthened for battle ([Hebrews 10:25](#)).
- Stay in the Word ([Joshua 1:8](#)).
- Pray humbly ([James 4:10](#)).
- Trust and obey God ([Romans 16:26](#)).



Consider these thoughts and questions:

- Which strategy has the enemy used against you recently? Was it successful? Why or why not?

As an agent of the Word of God, I implore you to get active in sharing the Word and reaching the lost.

With Love, from my heart, nanC

(If this article has blessed you – please share it)

“At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, ‘Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?’ And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them and said, ‘Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven’” (Matthew 18:1-4 ESV).

Child Like Faith

By Rev. Jordan Peiser

Summer has been going on for a while now. For those who are parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, or even older siblings to a little one who is still in school, we know that this means that you are seeing them around more often. As you interact with your grandchildren, children, nieces, and nephews you will likely hear a lot of questions, and — perhaps — one of the questions you will hear is “why?” It is a simple question, but behind it is a world of wonder. “Why?” It is a question that opens up doors to the world for children. And it may help us understand what Jesus means by “whoever humbles himself like this little child...”

In our text today, the disciples are bickering about, “who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” They are being proud and asking a question because each one is convinced that they are right, and they want Jesus to confirm them in the “knowledge” they already have. And so, Jesus tells them to be more like a child, to ask questions like children, to have more wonder at the world, and to be more humble when approaching Jesus.

You see, often when we read the words “faith like a child” we assume that means “simplistic faith”, “unquestioning faith” or “faith that stays in the basics.” But that’s not how children act or think. Children are always asking questions, always seeking to know more. When children ask questions, they are trying to learn and to grow in their understanding of the world. But there is a difference between how children tend to ask questions and how adults tend to ask questions.

We, adults, often ask questions because we want to trip someone up, see how much they truly know, or show that we already know the answer anyway. An example of that “adult” kind of questioning is the lawyer who asked Jesus “Who is my neighbor?” We read that the great student of God’s Law was just looking for a way to justify himself (Lk 10:29). He wanted to show that he is not guilty, that he is innocent, and that he is doing pretty well on his own without any help from Jesus or anyone else. His question is not one based on wonder or a desire to know more, but on pride and on thinking that he has all the answers on his own anyway.

But often when children ask questions it is because they have wonder and curiosity about the world. Child-like faith, then, is faith that seeks understanding because it stands before God in humility and wonder rather than in pride and cynicism. To those who approach God with humility, with a desire to know more, and with wonder at the majesty and glory of God, God will grant His wisdom as James says, “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him” (James 1:5 ESV).

There is a second aspect of having “child-like faith.” Little children rely on their parents to provide for them, to give them a house, to provide meals and cook for them, to read to them, to take them places, and to love them. Children, in other words, live life in receptivity. They receive all that they need from their parents. In a similar way, the Christian faith is a faith of receptivity. We receive all that we need for this earthly life and for eternal life: forgiveness, God as our Father, Jesus as our Savior, the Holy Spirit residing in us, the Word of God, and the sacraments as gifts. We receive these things without having earned them as the Father gives them to us out of His goodness and mercy. The disciples were bickering trying to earn their place in God’s kingdom, but Jesus was teaching them that their lives of faith begin with grace: God’s unearned favor. How often do we think

we have to “earn” something? How often do we feel like we have to “prove” ourselves? When Jesus calls us to child-like faith, He is telling us that God’s love for us is given freely, and we receive it by faith — trust in Him!

So, what can we learn from this?

First, I think today’s text teaches us to be humble and to be okay with asking questions. We may not always get an answer, but faith is something which is always seeking understanding and trying to grow. If we want to have “faith like a child” then it will involve approaching the Bible and the Divine Service with humility, wonder, and a constant desire to know more.

Secondly, we are called to have child-like faith that is always seeking to know more because we stand in wonder at the glory of God. Child-like faith imitates Jesus who spent time in His Father’s [God’s] house speaking with Him (Luke 2:41-52). And when we seek to grow in our faith, we draw closer and closer to our Lord and Savior Jesus. May we never grow tired of learning more about our Lord, and may the Lord Jesus fill us with a deeper wonder and appreciation for the Gospel of our salvation in Him!

That also means that when we have opportunities to share our faith, we should be happy to hear people ask questions. Why? Because questions show engagement, a desire to learn more, and are an opportunity to learn with the individual! Not having all the answers is not a weakness, it is a strength because it shows we are humble, willing to admit a lack of knowledge, and growing in our faith just like everyone else.

Finally, child-like faith is receptive. The disciples tried to prove who was the greatest. Perhaps they thought they were great because of their knowledge, because of their devotion, or because of their good works. But our greatness in God’s kingdom does not come from our knowledge, strength, or abilities. Our greatness in God’s kingdom comes from being called to faith by the Gospel, our greatness comes from being washed in the waters of holy baptism, forgiven by the Lord, and receiving this good news day in and day out. We do not “earn” our greatness in God’s eyes. In fact, our greatness is a gift. Our greatness in God’s kingdom is found in the God who became a human child, fulfilled the law for us, died, and rose again. In other words, just as children receive what they need from their parents, so Christians receive what we need for our daily and spiritual life from our heavenly Father.

Let us pray: O God our Father, fountain, and source of every good gift. Give us humble and child-like hearts filled with wonder at the world, You, and Your Holy Word so that we may desire to learn more about Jesus and may — with the help of the Holy Spirit — grow in our lives of faith. Remind us also of Your boundless grace and love for us, which we receive from Your generous hand, not because of any merit or worthiness in us, but solely out of Your Fatherly love, the love that You demonstrate to us in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!



Notes from Ken Ebright - Our volunteer in St. Louis

I went to the Delmar loop.

I talked to Morgan she is a believer she needs prayer for the things in life.

There was a Jewish woman I tried to tell her that Jewish as well. She thanked me and walked away.

I talked to Shane he believes in science over God. I tried to tell him that there has evidence for the things of the Bible being true

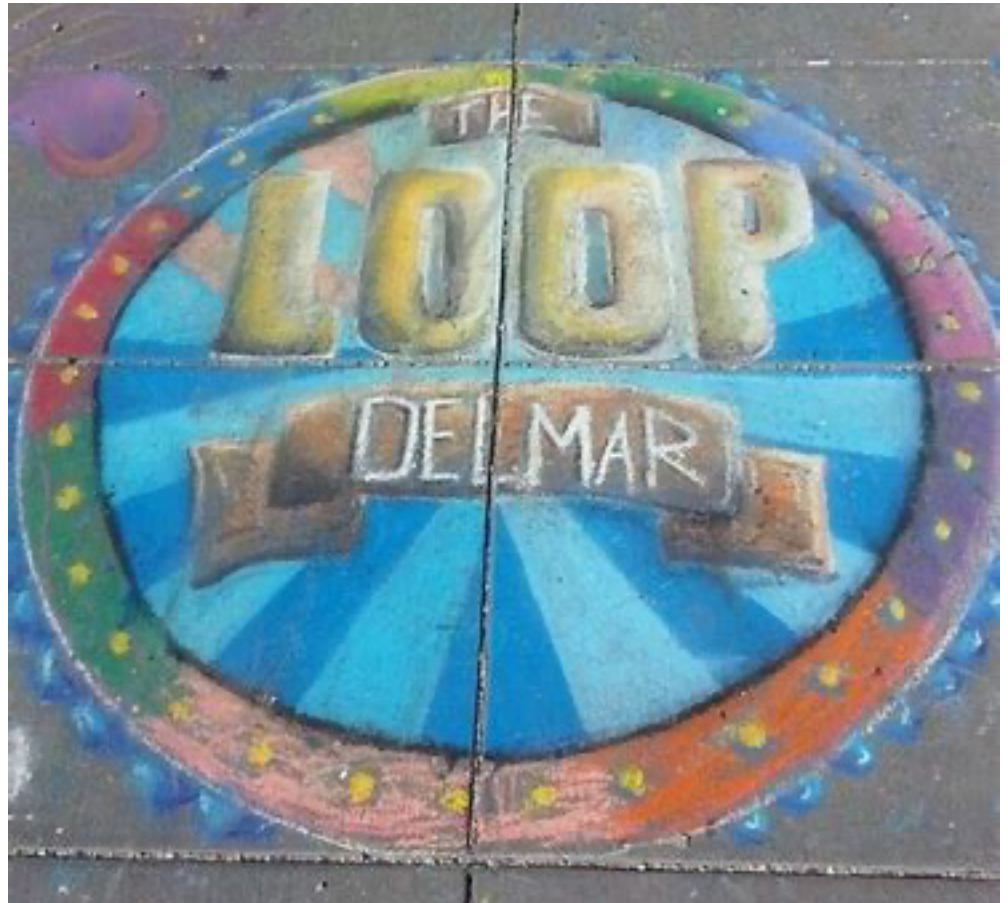
There was Alisia who I shared the gospel with.

There was Gigi who does not believe there is a black Jesus I tried to tell her that we don't know the color of Jesus. I tried to tell her Jesus loves people who are black Asian, white and Indian.

There was Dee who is a Christian and asked prayer about her pregnancy.

I have a few unnamed people a woman that went to catholic school and does not believe Also a nice Muslim woman who believes what she believes.

There are a few people to night that laughed at of me.



Please pray for Ken as he goes out weekly to reach the lost in St. Louis. If you would like to stand with him sometime, please let us know, we would welcome your partnership on the streets!

How long, Oh Lord?

By Steve Cohen

Micah 4:1

It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and it shall be lifted up above the hills;
and peoples shall flow to it,

² and many nations shall come, and say:

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go forth the law,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

³ He shall judge between many peoples,
and shall decide disputes for strong nations far away;

**and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;**

nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore;

⁴ but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree,
and no one shall make them afraid,

for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken. ESV

We who follow Jesus have a promise and a future hope – that the ways of this world will fall. We are bombarded by the news these days about wars, rumors of wars, hostages and rampant anti- Semitism – can we even dare to imagine a time of peace and hope?

It is in the dark days such as these that we must cling to the promises of God, find shelter under His protective wing, and pray, pray some more AND keep on praying.

*I believe there is no better time to bring the Gospel
to the lost than right now!*

THE REMNANTS

WRITTEN BY PAIGE HEINRICY ON 19 JULY 2024.

Father and Mother sent me away, for it was no longer safe to stay
I do not know the cause of this outburst of violence falling over my land...
As they drive me to safety, I look at the streets where I used to play
Left and right, all the houses are desolate and left abandoned
I recall the stories they told of my grandparents back when they were my age
They were also sent away, or rather, taken to a terrible place
A place without room to spare, people crowded on top of each other, a cage
Mother fears history repeating as we get farther from what is now just empty space
“We have survived worse as a people; we can survive this too,” Father said.
Rubble surrounds us as we pass by the Dead Sea
Mother continues the story as we all fill with dread
Another body lay on the side of the road, reminding us of the reason we need to flee
“Many of our people were left like that, piles stacked high by the Germans,” Mother continued.
They left me in this foreign land with trusted friends and went back to help those in need
I’d call every Friday to see how they were; I was terrified, unsure if we were ever to be restitute
One day, I rang after hearing of great violence in the area they were at
It rang and rang, on and on and on and on...

Yours in Christ,

Paige Heinricy

(Paige is the granddaughter of Steve and Nancy Cohen)



ISLAM VS. SOUND BIBLICAL DOCTRINE

WRITTEN BY GUEST BLOGGER.

How is it that our college-age kids are getting sucked into radical Islam? Siding with Hamas is a Satanic choice and brings a curse from God. Did we fail to teach them sound doctrine? I am not asking if our ministers failed. I am asking if we as parents, as aunts and uncles, as grandparents, failed...

I have recently heard three very different retired women, each born and raised in the church--Christians--who thought that adherents to Islam and Christianity both worship the same God. They both thought that Islam was a little off track but had good intentions in pursuing God. Their assumption is wrong and in direct conflict with Scripture.

Islam follows the false god Allah. He has different personal characteristics than our God, different plans for his people, and different eschatology (future plans) than our God, the Only True God. Allah is like Buddha or any other false god in this world.

“But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine:” Titus 2:1 NKJV
Sound doctrine. Does this sound like a passage intended for your pastor, a responsibility solely of your reverend or seminary students? No, this Scriptural command is for you. For me. For ALL believers.

I invite you to read the short book of Titus. Chapter 1 is a warning about believers going astray. Chapter 2 challenges ALL believers to fundamentally be strong in doctrine. It goes on to tell older men how they should behave. Older women to instruct younger women in how to be wives and mothers. (Check out Nancy's monthly articles. She is obeying this scriptural command.) This chapter also tells young women and young men how they are live their lives.

The foundation of all of our righteous living and obedience to the Savior is born out of good solid doctrine. How do we learn sound doctrine? Through reading, studying God's Word. Not through religion. Not through referring people to the minister. We personally have the responsibility to study God's Word. * PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY.

How are you educating yourself in sound doctrine? When we are children, our parents have to tell us to brush our teeth or eat vegetables. As mature adults, we pursue good health because it is the right thing to do.

It is our personal responsibility to pick up the Bible every day and read it, to attend church and make friendships in the community of Jesus followers, and to put ourselves under the sound of the Gospel. Christian book studies are fun and fine but let me encourage you to be part of a Bible study. Read God's Word.

Check out Bible Study Fellowship (in person or online), WordGo (an app to do alone or with friends), or The Bible Project. These resources will walk you through passages of the Bible. Not religion. Scripture.

My husband has been part of a men's summer study for about 20 years held at a breakfast joint early on Saturday mornings. They called themselves the "God squad". Now he meets his friends online, early, one day a week year-round.

Nancy hosted online weekly Bible studies during Covid with her daughters and granddaughters, and she is currently studying the book of James with her granddaughters.

Steve leads a weekly Bible study for men online. They have met for several years. Currently, they are going verse by verse through the book of Romans.

My friend Jessica has a crew of girlfriends to her home on Wednesday evenings to read through and discuss 1-3 John this summer. They are using a study guide and praying together.

Invite your besties to your favorite coffee shop to read thru and discuss a book of the Bible once a week. Encourage and facilitate your teen, your preteen, your spouse to do the same, while you serve them pizza or snacks.

Get into God's Word - both individually and in community. We have personal responsibility to study and grow in God's Word.

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate thereon day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success Joshua 1:8 ASV

But his delight is in the law of Jehovah; And on his law doth he meditate day and night Psalm 1:2 ASV
Every scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness: that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work (2 TIM 3:16-17)

Reach out to us at AOHE...

If you need help engaging in God's Word

If you need someone to help you organize or guide your group in Bible study

If you want further understanding of Islam vs Christianity

We are here for you. We are praying for you. We love you.

Yours in Christ,

Guest Blogger

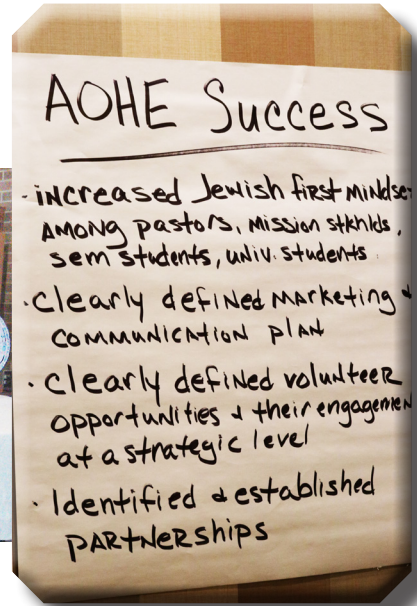
Please pray with us:

1. For peace in Israel that the Prince of Peace would reign in the hearts of all there. The escalation of hostilities in the Middle East is fraught with danger.
2. For the pastors, who serve us, that they might be encouraged in their service.
3. For Jordan Peiser's ministry in New Jersey.
4. For those who serve in our military especially those being sent to the Middle East.





August 1st, 2024 marks our 29th anniversary bringing the Gospel to those who do not know Jesus... yet.



7 Books, 152 new broadsides, 1.2 million distributed, 4 editions of Portals of Prayer

Presentations in 1,800+ churches

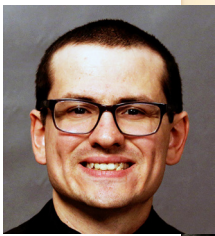
- AOHE Success**
- increased Jewish first mindsets among pastors, mission students, sem students, univ. students
 - clearly defined marketing & communication plan
 - clearly defined volunteer opportunities & their engagement at a strategic level
 - identified & established PARTNERSHIPS



To the Jew First - Romans 1:16



www.appleofhiseye.org enhanced web presence



Pray for the salvation of Israel Rom:10:1



R. S. O.

