

BETHLEHEM BIBLE COLLEGE  
(The Shepherd Society)  
P. O. Box 17166  
Jerusalem, 91190  
Israel

January 11, 2009

Dear friends,

Greetings in the name of Jesus, our Savior and the giver of life.

We have been receiving several telephone calls and emails asking us how to help the people of Gaza. The latest news from Gaza shows that the death toll among Palestinians is over 900 and the injured has surpassed 4000. From all indications, it seems that this number will continue to rise. Many of the dead are women and children and non-combatant men. We are witnessing a great humanitarian crisis. The situation in Gaza is horrible. All the people need our help.

The Christian community in Gaza is very small; some reports estimate its population to be less than 3500 individuals. This community is suffering as much as the rest of the population. Three members of this community, all of whom are civilians, have lost their lives in this war

Some of you are aware that Salwa, Bishara's wife, is from Gaza. She still has family there. Like most Gazans, they are out of electricity and gas, and most of the time they have no running water. There were days when they did not have any food to cook. The bombing has been very close to them. They are afraid, but have no where to hide.

This past December several families from the Christian community in Gaza were allowed to come and visit Bethlehem for Christmas. While here, the war broke out in Gaza and now they cannot go back. They number about 35 families. They are stuck in Bethlehem with very little resources. In addition there are 7 families that came a year ago and are afraid to go back to Gaza.

We are seeking your prayers. Please pray for the end of this terrible war and pray for wisdom to be given to both sides of the conflict to do what is right in the eyes of God.

- Pray for an end to the killing of Palestinians and Israelis and that both communities can live in peace.
- Pray for the leaders on both sides that the Lord will give them wisdom.
- Pray for all the families that lost loved ones to be comforted.
- Pray for the Church in Gaza that it will be a Light in the midst of this darkness.
- Pray for a peace accord that will end all hostilities between Israelis and Arabs

Bethlehem Bible College, in cooperation with the Shepherd Society, the Church of Missionary Alliance in Jerusalem, Musalaha (Reconciliation) and the Palestinian Bible Society are seeking and receiving funding to help the people of Gaza. We are in

touch with the Baptist Church in Gaza who will do the actual distribution of food, medicine and other items. Please see the details below for your contributions.

In His Name  
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P.S. Funds can be sent to Bethlehem Bible College, designated as: "Help for Gaza".

In the USA send contributions to:

***Bethlehem Bible College.***  
***614-C South Bus. IH-35***  
***New Braunfels, TX 78130***  
***U.S.A***

***Tel: 830-708-7444***

***Fax: 830-629-0357***

***E-mail: [info@bethbcusa.org](mailto:info@bethbcusa.org)***

***\*United Methodist congregations wishing to make contributions to the Shepherd Society can use the following Advance Number: 3020439***

In UK send your support to:

***Hope Christian Trust***  
***Bethany , 14 Farthing Combe***  
***Axbridge, Somerset , BS26 2DR***  
***UK.***

***Tel: 01934 733695***

***Email: Rev John Angle - [johnangle@btinternet.com](mailto:johnangle@btinternet.com)***

***or [hopebethlehem@btinternet.com](mailto:hopebethlehem@btinternet.com)***

***\*Designate for Bethlehem Bible College in the memo line. All donations are tax deductible. Charity Commission Reg. No. 328456.***