

Shalom Leader and Friend,

Do you love Israel and want to understand more about what is going on in the Land, from the perspective of those who live and serve the Lord in Southern Israel? Would you be interested in a blessed time of informative testimony and Israeli worship music for your congregation or event?

George Whitten is Founder and Director of [www.worthynews.com](http://www.worthynews.com), a thriving on-line news ministry since 1999, focusing on Israel, Christian persecution, prophecy, outreach and discipleship, reaching over 120 countries around the globe. He is an anointed visionary, writer and speaker. He brings a fresh, intrinsic perspective on current events in the Middle East, giving insights on both the political and spiritual atmosphere in the Land, all the while balancing it with an inspiring, down-to-earth revival message which moves every audience.

George's wife, Israeli-born Baht Rivka, is an accomplished musician and worship leader. Her compelling music has blessed the nations as she has ministered at international conferences, convocations and outreaches around the globe. She has also performed in secular Israeli venues such as schools, Holocaust survivors ceremonies and others around the Land. Her three uniquely composed, Hebrew CD's are effective evangelistic tools as she has given away thousands freely in Israel, opening numerous doors to share the Gospel. Rivka is currently working on other music and video projects which she believes will touch hearts of Israelis from every walk of life.

Married just over fifteen years, the couple currently serves in an all-encompassing ministry in the Israeli Negev Desert, homeschooling their two children, leading Kehilat Matan Todah (Congregation Give Thanks), overseeing Worthy Network online, leading worship services and outreaches across the Land and aiding Israelis in need with finances, food, clothing, dental work and other practical needs, all the while keeping an open home for both friends from abroad and Israelis in need.

George and Rivka will be ministering all over the United States this Winter, singing and sharing what God is doing in Israel. Ask the Lord if He might have them minister at your gathering. They ask no set fee, only minimal travel expenses and a love offering. An additional way that you can bless their ministry is to ask friends and family ahead of time, to collect and bring their old, broken or unwanted jewelry. Rivka uses these to teach jewelry making to Israelis or new immigrants who want to learn a trade, and also melt or make other jewelry in order to support their ministry in the Land. They will also have CD's, jewelry and other Israeli gifts available for sale.

**For more information and booking:**

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**[www.worthynews.com](http://www.worthynews.com)**

[www.worthydevotions.com](http://www.worthydevotions.com)

[www.lazmanhazeh.com](http://www.lazmanhazeh.com)

### *Getting to know the Whitten Family:*

George and Rivka were both radically saved out of very worldly lives, George in 1996 and Rivka in 1991.

George was raised in a nominally Christian home and grew up in Catholic school which later led to a rebellious lifestyle of drugs and alcohol. One day, as George was driving his van down a rural highway, he was hit by a drunk driver, thrusting him into a telephone pole at about fifty miles an hour, wearing no seat belt. George miraculously came out of his vehicle unscathed. This frightening experience made him wonder what might have happened if he had died that night. The Lord kept him alive for a purpose.

Shortly after he gave his life to the Lord (and not knowing a single thing about how to use a computer), George felt led by the Lord to create a website called Worthy News, so that people could know how to pray for people suffering Christian persecution and for other important events going on around the world.

Worthy News grew to Worthy Network, reaching out to the body in online discipleship and teaching, and also reaching out to the lost in Israel and all over the world via chat rooms and boards. In the last few years, Worthy News has grown to be one of the largest Christian websites on the web and brings in people from all over the world, believers and non-believers alike. The Whittens have been blessed to see many of those touched and saved through this growing internet ministry-- all the glory to God!

Rivka was born in Tel Aviv to native Israelis during the Yom Kippur War of 1973 and moved to the United States with her mother when she was a toddler. She grew up with her Israeli mother and American Jewish stepfather, both hippie artists and addicts who moved from place to place searching for artsy towns where they could be involved in that type of community. By the time she was in her teens, she was looking for love in all the wrong places, frequently running away and getting entangled with drugs and alcohol as well. By His grace, God placed believers in her life who were bold enough to share with her the good news of salvation. Among them, emerged a Jewish man who called himself a believer in Jesus. Though she was apprehensive, he prayed faithfully for three years until Rivka gave her life fully to the Lord.

Shortly after this, Rivka embraced the Messianic movement of Jewish people coming to know their Messiah. She was privileged to travel all over the world, sharing with Jewish people, ministering in song, testimony and teaching Israeli folk-style dance worship unto the Lord. Later, she spent a year and a half touring the United States and ministering with The Liberated Wailing Wall music and drama team of Jews for Jesus. With them, she sang and taught Israeli dance workshops at hundreds of churches. Eventually, Rivka felt

that God was calling her back to her people in Israel. In 1996, she came to live and study in Israel, at David Yellin College of Education, in Jerusalem and minister with a pioneering Israeli outreach ministry called Maoz.

On a trip to visit her family in the States during that time, Rivka met (and later married) George, who had already begun feeling God's leading to Israel. Now, married just over fourteen years, they homeschool their two children, thirteen year old daughter Elianna, who was born blind and miraculously healed and nine year old son, Obadiah, who was diagnosed with Downs Syndrome and urged strongly to abort five months in the womb, but came out a perfectly healthy and extraordinary boy.

George and Rivka are now living in Southern Israel, within close range of falling Hamas rockets. The city of Arad, with a growing population of 27,000 is a low income town, which brings many new immigrants, hurting families and single moms. There are many, many needs. Arad is also where believers are highly persecuted by the orthodox Jewish community. The Whittens, along with other believers in this town have been publicly ridiculed and threatened, their ministry buildings fire bombed, jobs terminated and property vandalized by these religious fanatics.

Despite the extreme opposition, the Whitten's home has been a central refuge for both believers and seekers. They host regular Shabbat dinner meals as an outreach to the community, hold nightly prayer and worship meetings, record and distribute Hebrew scripture cd's and minister in song around the world, open their home to Israelis in need and visitors from around the world and also work alongside a number of other ministries in the Land in outreach.

George and Rivka are both grateful to the Lord for calling them out of darkness and into faith in Him, and then into full time ministry in Israel. They believe strongly that God is calling them to build a community/discipleship/ministry center in the Negev, a much-needed outreach to the struggling body of believers and also to the lost. Please keep them in your prayers for increased strength and a richer anointing as they minister daily in this troubled region.

*Please keep them on your prayer lists and consider supporting their ministry.*

[www.worthynews.com](http://www.worthynews.com)

[www.lazmanhazeh.com](http://www.lazmanhazeh.com)

**Whitten Family**

**POB 468 Arad 88100**

**ISRAEL**

*Picture Below:*

