

P.O. Box 926; Aptos, CA 95001 626.720.4834 graciousgift.org

Shalom Friend!

What an intense year we have had in our country and in our world! You may be like me and feel weary from the pandemic while yearning deeper for peace in our nation and world. But what would it be like to consider stepping away for a time and being able to spend intentional time with Jesus? To find renewal and refreshment through worship, prayer, and reflection? This is the invitation we bring to you for our Israel Pilgrimage in 2022.

We believe that Israel is a special place to notice how God has revealed himself to us for centuries. We get to sail on the sea where Jesus walked. We can go to the cities where Jesus spoke the word and healed them from lifelong disease. We see where Jesus died and rose again. More than a vacation, it is an opportunity to witness the work of God firsthand.

I truly hope that you will consider joining us in Israel from June 13 to June 24, 2022. We have a special time planned, where you will be invited to draw nearer to Jesus, to learn more about God's revealing work in the world from the beginning of time, and to connect with other Christ-followers in rich and meaningful ways. It has the potential to be a soul refreshing and life transforming journey as we make space to encounter the gracious love of God.

For more information, explore the landing page and unique itinerary, or contact us directly. Then sign up for a transformational experience of a lifetime! I feel expectant for the gift that God has waiting for each of us on this journey.

Blessings, JoAnna

JoAnna I. Dias, M.A., M.A. Founder, Executive Director Gracious Gift Ministries



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I'm honored to introduce you to the Gracious Gift Ministries Leadership Committee





Chuck Wysong

Dave Dias

and Yoav Rotem, our Tour Guide



Yoav Rotem is a native Israeli, born on a kibbutz in northern Israel.

He performed his military duty with the Israel Defense Forces, serving in an elite reconnaissance unit. Yoav continues to serve as a reserve sergeant. After concluding his mandatory military service, Yoav completed a double degree in International Relations and Israeli Studies at The Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Yoav's love of Israel and its people led him to becoming a tour guide in 2005, having earned his renown reputation as a professional Israel Government licensed Tour Guide since then. He has worked with hundreds of visitors – groups and individuals, students and diplomats, Jewish and Christian – from around the world. Yoav loves sharing his passion for the history and culture of Israel, including many 'out-of-the way secrets' that Israel has to share. In addition to his depth and breadth of knowledge of all things Israel, Yoav has a wonderfully engaging sense of humor and captivating personality. Since a very early age, the Bible played a significant role in his life. (His mother is a high school Bible teacher.) Today, most of his teaching focuses on the Bible, the land, and drawing us closer to understanding The Word by visiting the Holy Land.

Yoav has written about local Israel cuisine – both street food and gourmet meals. He is very much in touch with the local "scene" and enjoys Israel's cultural life.

Yoav and his wife live in the outskirts of Jerusalem and he enjoys the wonderment of being a father.