

Stories from South Africa
Cecilia Burger, LCJE Coordinator for South Africa

In order to illustrate how the LCJE network operates on a practical level I would like to share Linda's story (not real names) with you.

Linda was born in London and is a Jewess from an Orthodox Jewish background. One day she saw people in the Waterfront Shopping Centre in Cape Town where she was working at the time. They were wearing t-shirts with *Jesus made me kosher* printed on them. She was intrigued and approached Steve asking him what they were all about. Steve was part of a team of Jews for Jesus doing outreach in Cape Town. He told Linda about Jews for Jesus and shared the gospel with her. Linda agreed to a follow-up visit and gave her contact details to Steve.

At the start of the outreach Michael Sischy, Director of Jews for Jesus South Africa, had arranged with Edith of Messiah's People to help with the follow-up afterwards. Edith in turn asked me to help her. So it happened that Linda's details landed in my hands.

I called Linda and she invited me for a visit. We chatted over a cup of tea. This became the first of many visits and many cups of tea. We became friends and I shared with her from the Bible and about Messiah Jesus. We often prayed together and she saw answers to our prayers.

Then all of a sudden Linda became very ill. She was not able to stay by herself any longer and had to hire a nurse-aid. After the first weekend with the nurse-aid she called me. She told me that she prayed with the nurse-aid and that something had happened to her. I could tell by her tone of voice that she was a changed person.

I visited Linda the next day and realized a miracle had happened to her. She was no longer frightened and insecure, but filled with joy. I asked her a few questions and realized that she believed in Jesus as her Messiah. She prayed committing her life to her Messiah.

Before I had the chance to tell her what kind of changes to expect in her life, she shared with me that she saw people in a different light. The impatience and criticism she used to feel towards people made way for tolerance and love. Linda attends a weekly Bible Study group and I hope that she will one day be part of a Messianic congregation.

I recently had the opportunity to share Linda's story with Michael Sischy. I thank the Lord for the LCJE network strengthening the ties that bind us together in His service.

Another LCJE member, Leigh, and I have been visiting some Jewish friends together. Recently I asked her to meet a Jewish friend, Sarah* with me who was in dire straits financially. She is an estate agent and in the present economic climate was unable to sell properties. Sarah used to call me regularly asking for prayer and we often prayed on the telephone.

The three of us agreed to meet in my office. As Sarah came through the door she told us that someone was very interested in one of the properties she was selling.

Before our meeting Leigh and I decided that we had to establish a foundation before we could agree in prayer so, before we began praying, I asked, "Can we all say *Yeshua is Lord*." Leigh and I were delighted when Sarah also agreed to His Lordship. We held hands and prayed, committing ourselves and the whole situation to the Lord. Within two weeks after our meeting Sarah sold two properties.

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