

„Work, as long as it is day..!“ *John 9:4*
“Pure and undefiled religion before God the father is this,
to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction.”

James
1:27

HOME—VISITATIONS

One of the projects we have is to visit Holocaust survivors in their homes. Here is a little insight:

A home-visit to Sima: Inge shares:

I always knew Sima's view on the importance of the State of Israel. I was glad that she felt better and we could visit her with the young Thalenbergs, Arnon and Sarita. Sarita told Sima, that even if they still live in the Diaspora, that they strongly keep their Jewish traditions and identity. Sima brought out a point in our interesting conversation and shared what she thinks about the importance of the land of Israel in connection to the Jewish people still living in other countries—the Diaspora. „If there is no Israel,“ she said, „there is ‚no life‘ (security and safety) for the Jewish people all around the world. Israel, we here, are your basis. The whole world did not help us. We have to be strong. I do not trust the nations. If anything should happen, - you can come to Israel!“

Chana and Simone share about some of their home visits:

A home-visit to Shoshana: „Chana and I visited Shoshanna, who is about 90 years old. Outwardly she seems so fragile and weak, sitting in a wheelchair. But her ‚inner-person‘ is so different. One does not hear her complain about the many problems that come with age. Even if she could write books about all the sufferings she had to go through in the Holocaust, she only talks about good things, - no negative words, and I

could see it in her eyes:
„shining and full of life!“ She
made a great impression
on me!“ Simone shared.

„For me, Shoshanna is a very special person. I used to volunteer regularly in her home. After she had a bad fall, she moved to her daughter's. She has a very nice, big family, 11 children, and they love and respect each other. This family loves Israel very much. Shoshanna has such a positive character and when I asked her, how she is coping with all her pain, she answered: „It could always be worse and it will

be better!“ I thought to myself: „Chana, you can really learn from her!“ — Chana

A home-visit to Miriam: Simone shares:

„Even if she has good children who care for her, Miriam was very happy about our visit. She shared with pride about her children and grandchildren and about her husband and the good marriage they had. Because of her age she can rarely go out anymore. I felt that it was good for her to have some company and share!“

Chana shares: „Miriam was very happy to see us. „You people, you do not forget me!“ were her words when we came to visit her. She was born in

Yugoslavia and came to Israel about 60 years ago.

„Israel this is the only place where we can live“, she says. She never shared a lot about

her past experiences, but she talked about

the terrible Carmel forest fire up in the north of the country. Asking us many questions about Ner Yaakov and what we do, she expressed real interest in coming to visit the Ner Yaakov Center in the future.“

A home-visit to Mascha: „Mascha worked many years as a midwife. Today she is suffering from Alzheimer's illness and needs nursing - care. A fulltime - caregiver and her husband David are always at her side. Seeing her in this present suffering I still find her countenance

radiant with dignity. Again I ask myself: Why? Why does she still need to suffer like that today? I have no answer, but I know it will help nothing to tell her: „Do not be afraid, everything will be good!“ I could only agree with Chana, who reminded her again, how important her work as a midwife was, and how many children she helped come into this world, - especially after the Holocaust, when so many Jewish children were killed. This made her very happy, brightened her day and brought some comfort!“ — Simone

„If the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?“ 1. Cor. 14:8