

## KATRIN LAUTER SHARES:

*„For I will restore them to the land I gave their forefathers!“ Jerm.: 16:15b*



Katrin with

Maya Kheifitch

*„I have been volunteering at the Ner Yaakov home since August 17th 2014. On a regular basis I visit survivors—who live all around Jerusalem— and help them with their housework, and bring them to medical check-ups or to*

*the hospital. At the house we celebrate the Jewish holidays together or have meetings when visitors from Germany come in order to meet with these last living witnesses. The time together with the Holocaust survivors is very intense and also moving. It is almost not possible to express it in words. The deep pain and incomprehensible suffering— which each one of them experienced— is expressed, but also the joy of life in each one of them, and the deep longing for peace in the Jewish hearts for their people. It makes a deep impression on me, how open and warm they are to me, who came from Germany. We are in a time, where we can listen, ask questions and learn. The past, the present and the future can now have a role together. Each one of the survivors carries the burden and responsibility of sharing and teaching the next generation what they have survived. Of course, it is very difficult for them to talk about the atrocities of the Shoah. Sometimes they cannot find words to express the horrors they experienced and in the nights they are plagued by nightmares about the camps and hear screams. Not one day is passing, that they do not think about it. But still, they are not silent.*

*And we, the younger generation, the third and fourth generation after the war? How do we react? Which answers do we give to these survivors? Well, it all starts in our hearts. Are our hearts soft and open to hear and learn? Do we invest time, are we listening and do we ask questions? Is it important enough for us to perceive? I think it is all a question of love! The God of Israel has a burning love for his people and so should we— the believers from the Nations. May we be awakened and shocked by the fact that only 70 years after Auschwitz anti-Semitism is strongly once again on the rise in Europe. The sufferings of the Jewish people **must** be written deep in our hearts and we have to take up responsibility for the future, a future where every Jewish life will be protected and treated with respect!“ Katrin Lauter*

*„I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord!“ Eze. 37:14b*

## VISITING BARUCH + LILA WITH MY NEPHEW:

*Ner Yaakov has a „new star!“ My nephew Marcus and I visited Baruch and Lila, our volunteers help weekly. They—and other survivors at the Purim party— just fell in love with him! Whoever knows the Jewish people, they know, that in almost every Jewish-heart is a hidden—or not so hidden— „match-maker“! If they would have had a chance, they would have arranged a wedding for him right here! They still speak about him and of course: I am proud!*

**Aliyah:** *Israel, for the survivors, is especially important. They lived through the time where they had nowhere to go and so became victims of the Holocaust! Lila said: „After the war we lived in Ukraine. Even after the Holocaust we were full of fear of the Gentiles and we wanted to return to our own people.“*

*They came in 1973.*



*My nephew Marcus visits Baruch and Lila with me.*