

Garden Tomb Newsletter: August 2016

As always the summer months have been quiet at the Garden Tomb. High temperatures mean lower visitor numbers, and we have fewer volunteers on site. However, it has been an exciting time and we have seen many people come to a first-time experience of faith in Jesus as Lord and Saviour, while others have been strengthened and encouraged in their faith. From individual visitors, to 30 out of a group of 50 people from Cambodia, we have seen the power of God at work in the lives of many visitors to the garden.

Improvements to the garden have continued throughout the summer, as you can see from the photos below.



We have a great team of local Garden Tomb staff, and a number of you have asked for their names, and what they do, so that you can pray for them by name; so here they are...

Phillip [Operations Manager], **Chin-Won** [Business Manager], **Anne Berit, Mirjam and Fadi** [Reception], **Fadia** [Reception, Shop and Finance Admin], **Silva, Yonina and Louiza** [Housekeeping], **Riki** [Reception and Gardening], **George** [Gardening], **Nellie, Christen, Raneen and Matilda** [Shop], **Peter** [Guiding and Graphic Design].

In addition to the permanent staff we have a number of local volunteers: **Cesar + Maria, Joao, Gerald and Wiebeke + John**. They all live locally and work either as guides, or in the shop; and between them they speak a number of languages including English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Hebrew and Arabic!

Garden Tomb Volunteers

With us at the moment are **Vicky Alipio** from Canada [till 1st September], **Bob + Jenny Lillyman** from the UK [till 12th September], and **Ben Tham** from Singapore [till 20th September]

Arriving in September we have: **Stuart + Pru Bell, Gwyneth Ferguson, Andrew + Wendy Luke, Edgar + Sandra McKinney, Ken Newbury, Paul + Jenn Weaver**, and **Sabrina Liu**.

Points for Prayer and Praise:

- We give thanks that the police have removed the drug users and dealers from the garden area immediately below the Skull Hill viewing platform. This had been an ongoing problem for over a year. Please pray that the Municipality will now clear the rubbish, secure the site, and re-establish the gardens.
- We give thanks for the many life changing encounters we have seen with visitors through the summer months. From individual visitors to a group of 30 Cambodians, many people have experienced salvation and renewal at the Garden Tomb over the last 8 weeks. Please pray that this continues and increases as we move into the busy autumn season.
- We give thanks for the generosity of Garden Tomb visitors and friends who give to the ministry of the garden. Pray that we continue to see God's blessing on our finances as we move ahead with significant improvements to gardens and infrastructure.
- Prayer for the Garden Tomb trustees, particularly as they meet together on 20th September

The 24/7 Prayer Partner Network

Prayer is an essential part of the ministry of the Garden Tomb. Please join us as a Prayer Partner in praying for the ministry of the Garden Tomb as we seek to introduce people to Jesus the Messiah and His victory revealed in the cross and resurrection. Pray that we will be effective and faithful in declaring Christ crucified and risen.

If you want to register as a Prayer Partner:

- Go to the Garden Tomb website www.gardentomb.com and click on the 'Prayer' button [top right on the website]. This takes you to a page titled **Pray for the Garden Tomb**, where you will see a lists of subjects for prayer; and a link which says **JOIN OUR 24/7 PRAYER NETWORK. FIND OUT MORE >>**
- Click on this link which will take you to a page titled **Prayer Network**; and a line which says **Register as a Prayer Partner**. Fill in the boxes titled **Name** and **Email Address**. The box entitled **Location** should already say the country where you are logged on. If the location is wrong you can change it.
- **Do Not** click on the REGISTER button yet!
- The box entitled **Time Zone** should already be set to the country where you are logged on. If the time zone is wrong you can change it from the drop-down list. Then pick at least one **day** and **time** when you commit to pray [i.e. Thursday 11:30am]
- Now click on the REGISTER button.
- You will receive an email asking you to **confirm the day and time** you have registered to pray.
- On the day you have committed to pray you will receive a regular weekly email reminder, along with an up-to-date list of prayer points.

1 Peter 3:15: "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect"



Sue and I are honoured and privileged to work at the Garden Tomb, leading this wonderful team of local and overseas staff and volunteers.

Join with us in praying that we, together with all the Garden Tomb team, will honour and glorify the Risen Lord as we declare the life, death and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah here in Jerusalem; the very city where the great act of salvation took place.

Blessings from Jerusalem!
Stephen and Sue Bridge

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