

Apples of Gold

Zvi Kalisher's life-changing spiritual conversations

<https://www.foi.org/zvikalisher/>

ALWAYS PREPARED

As believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, we must “be ready in season and out of season” to tell people of our hope (2 Tim. 4:2). We must always be prepared to witness for Him because we never know whom the Lord may send across our paths.

Recently one of our neighbors came to ask us many questions about our faith. She said, “I want to know how you came to believe in Him.” I was delighted to give her my testimony, and I encouraged her to visit us often.

She continued to visit, and each time she asked if I knew others who believed in the Lord and how they had come to believe in Him. One day I asked, “Are you here to draw closer to the Lord or to investigate me?”

She answered, very sincerely, “I am truly interested in knowing how you came to your faith in the Lord. I would like to know the one who brought you to this faith.”

I gave her a Bible and said, “Take this home and read it. As He guided and directed me in my search for Him, I am sure He will do the same for you.” She accepted the Bible and left.

About five hours later, her husband knocked on my door. “Please do not give my wife any more of this poison,” he said as he handed me the Bible. I told him, “I only want to help her find the truth. If this is poison, then what is the truth?”

He was very unhappy and said, “I work against Christian missionaries in Israel and against all Jews like you who believe in Jesus—the apostates! I am happy to fight against all of you who try to make the Jewish people accept a new religion.”

“Then you have come to the right place.”

“Oh no,” he said, “I would never fight against you because we are neighbors, and you have been a good friend over the years.”

I told him, “If you think what I am doing is against the law, feel free to bring other members of your organization. The prophet Isaiah wrote: ‘The Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear’ [Isa. 59:1]. The Lord may enable your friends to believe what you refuse to believe.”

He became very serious and said, “You could be killed if I did what you are suggesting.”

I replied, “But I will not be alone.” I reminded him that God told Abraham, Jacob, Moses, and all of His servants not to fear because He would be with them and would protect them. “And so it will be with me,” I assured him.

He said, “You may not be afraid, but I am. If I tell them that because you are my neighbor I do not fight against you, I will probably lose my job.”

“I have lost my job many times because of my faith in the Lord,” I told him, “and I have been in more dangerous situations than I can remember. However, I have never lost my hope in the Lord because He has told us in His Word, ‘do not be afraid of them’” (Dt. 20:1).”

The man then left my home. The next day his wife visited again. She seemed more self-confident than she had before. I asked, “Are you not afraid to come here? Do you know what your husband told me?”

She replied, “I have no fear. My husband knows where I am, and he told me he will not inform his superiors about you. Now, please tell me more about the Lord!”

I praise God for this woman—for her courage and her desire to know about the Lord. I am praying she will come to know Him as her Messiah and Savior, and I am also praying that her husband may one day yield his life to Him.