

# together | everywhere

Together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ  
1 Corinthians 1:2

## Before and After

*by Pastor Dale, Middle East/North Africa*

Nora, a 30-year-old resident of Nazareth, describes her life before knowing Christ as “hell.” She had no hope in anything. Nora says, “Whenever I surveyed the conditions we live in, the continual increase of prices, nothing was certain and secure in life. Life became intolerable in Israel, at least for me. Nothing was going well. I had difficulties in my job. I had hoped to establish a family of my own. But, none of my dreams had come true.”

“When my mother invited a pastor to start a house church meeting, I did not like that. I did not know how this would change me. Every week I would sit and hear the Bible study. One day, Rev. K. taught about the greatness of God’s love, that He gave His only begotten Son on the cross while we were still sinners who deserve death and punishment.”

Nora continues, “I wanted to try one thing. I wanted to pray and see, if God so loved me: Would He change me? Would He forgive my sins? Would He give me hope in life?” Nora prayed that night to God, asking Him to forgive her sins and to help her regain hope in life. When she finished she felt something had changed in her heart. “It was like a vision,” Nora explained. “I saw my life, my future as something great. I started praising God with the songs I knew from the worship meeting.”

Now Nora is engaged to Elias. They are planning to marry in the summer of 2017. Nora describes her present life in these words: “Now I feel so secure. Nothing threatens my days. I start my days in the name of Jesus; He walks before me step by step. I have great joy in my heart for He is my Lord. He gave me dreams and hope in Him. I praise His name for He lives in me by His Holy Spirit.”

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