

How to Plan Your Own Ultimate Israel Pilgrimage

What if it were possible to travel back in time to ancient Jerusalem, where Jesus made His triumphal entry into the city? Or to take Holy Communion in the Garden Tomb where Christ was once buried? For many Christians, a pilgrimage to the Holy Land is only a dream.

But it doesn't have to be! With the economy forcing some airline companies to lower prices, consumers like you and me are reaping the benefits.

The Gift That Keeps on Giving

☒ This week I traveled to South Bend, Ind., to attend the funeral-or should I say the home-going service-of my 94-year-old grandfather. Lawrence Lowe Sr. was a spry man and as the patriarch of the Lowe clan, he possessed wisdom far beyond his years.

He stood about 5 feet 11 inches tall, but in my eyes he looked more like 6 foot 6. His ebony complexion hid the scars and hardships of growing up under the burden of racial segregation and Jim Crow laws. But he let nothing stop him from leaving his mark on the earth in his own unique way.

He spent his early years working as a farmer on his dad's farm along with his eight brothers, and as a carpenter in his latter years. His huge fists no doubt held the key to thousands of family stories that I unfortunately never got a

chance to hear.

We all regret when we peer into the casket of a loved one and realize we didn't get a chance to say "I love you" one more time. But years before my grandfather slipped into eternity, I got the chance to tell him "thank you." I thanked him for giving me the man in my life-my dad.

Daniel Lowe is an awesome man! His love for me is unconditional, and his guidance is too. When I became a single mom, he stepped into my daughter's life and became a surrogate father to her. He has instilled character and integrity in me, and today I love the Lord because my earthly father made a believer out of me. It's my definition of a living legacy.

I believe love and life are the two greatest gifts we can give to one another. The Bible says for God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, and the Son gave His life so that we might spend eternity with Him (see [John 3:16](#)).

When we accept Jesus into our lives and live for Him, we not only secure our place in heaven, we leave behind a spiritual legacy that will never die. God's love is the gift that keeps on giving, and we must pass it on to our children's children and for generations to come.

Valerie G. Lowe is associate editor for *Charisma*. Check out her e-newsletters [Standing With Israel](#) and [Spirited Woman e-Magazine](#).

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Reconciling Men and Women in the Church

In the beginning, God created male and female because both were essential to express the totality of His nature. The entrance of sin into the world through Adam has resulted in centuries of gender conflict and distorted relationships. Only through the cross of Jesus Christ is spiritual equality restored.

New Film Exposes Growth of Radical Islam on American Soil

✘ The Clarion Fund released its newest documentary film, *The Third Jihad*, at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. this week. The film is igniting discussion about radical Islam in America.

Clarion's first documentary film, the award-winning *Obsession: Radical Islam's War Against the West*, communicates the global threat posed by the radical elements of Islam. *The Third Jihad* shifts the focus to the growth of radical Islam on American soil via "Cultural Jihad," the use of the democratic system to transform the American way of life from within to a society governed by Sharia Law (Islamic religious law).

Thank God for His Grace

By now I'm sure you've read about it or heard the news. Miss California USA Carrie Prejean will keep her crown despite "racy" photos that appeared on a Web site weeks after the 21-year-old defended traditional marriage during the televised Miss USA pageant.

She told the panel of celebrity judges, a live audience and millions of viewers, she didn't believe in "opposite marriage." "I don't mean to offend anybody," she said, "but

that's the way I was raised." She went on to say marriage is between a man and a woman.

The Power of the Prophetic

We all have the ability to reach others for God, but many women are unaware of the secret weapon housed in them. The Holy Spirit has empowered you for purpose, and He wants to use your influence to draw your family members, neighbors, coworkers and others to Him.

To watch "Prophetic Wind Propelling the Creative Process" by Barbara Yoder, click below.

{youtube}ChGRcPTwmvg{/youtube}

The Dysfunctional Church

The true meaning of family has been lost both in our society and in the body of Christ. But with the proper perspective, we can make a difference.

Clip of the Week

As the state of Israel recognizes Independence Day this month, Israelis around the world pause to celebrate 61 years of freedom.

Click below to watch video.

{youtube}1dGz-q2qzBA{/youtube}

Gingrich: 'Middle East Policies Very Dangerous'

✖ Former U.S. Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich told reporters this week the Obama administration is “on a collision course with Israel,” and said the president’s Middle East policies are “very dangerous,” *The Jerusalem Post* reported. Gingrich made the comments during the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) Policy Conference.

“They are systematically setting up the most decisive confrontation that we’ve ever seen,” he added. To read more, [click here](#).