

# Morning Rundown: 'Dream of Mine': Bear Grylls Celebrates Baptism in Jordan River, Where 'Jesus Was Baptized'

Here's a quick rundown of the top stories on :

## **'Dream of Mine': Bear Grylls Celebrates Baptism in Jordan River, Where 'Jesus Was Baptized'**

Survivalist, author and reality TV star Bear Grylls checked off a bucket-list item this fall as he was baptized in the Jordan River, fulfilling what he called a lifelong "dream of mine."

"It had always been a dream of mine to get in the water that Jesus was baptized in by my hero, John the Baptist," Grylls wrote in a post on X. "The story is so amazing, [and] it seems wherever Jesus went, that new birth, new life, a new vision followed."

He went on to point his followers to the New Testament book of Luke, who "was probably a Syrian doctor before he met Jesus" and wrote "a reliable, poignant account of [Jesus'] life."

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**Loren Cunningham Dies at 88: YWAM Founder, Global Missionary, Evangelist**

Loren Cunningham, founder of interdenominational, multicultural Christian training organization Youth With a

Mission, died today at his home in Hawaii after a battle with lung cancer. The first person in history to travel for the sake of Christ and the Great Commission to every sovereign nation on earth, all dependent countries and more than 100 territories, he was 88.

Cunningham founded YWAM in 1960 as a way to get young people involved in Christian mission and built the organization into a global missions movement touching every continent and influencing every generation over its 63-year history. He was often called the “deregulator of missions” because he broke the 1960s missionary paradigm by creating a way for youth to serve short-term, interdenominationally and unsalaried. YWAM now has over 2,000 locations in 200 countries, reaching more than 180 countries through three main areas: evangelism, training and mercy ministry.

Although many have credited YWAM as being one of the world’s largest mission movements, Cunningham responded to this claim by deflecting the glory to Jesus, noting, “Well, however large it is, it’s not large enough because Jesus’ last commandment to reach the whole world with the gospel has not been completed.”

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### **Israel Under Attack: A Call to Prayer**

Heartbreak. Shock. Agony. Devastation. Confusion. Rage. These are just a few of the emotions flooding the hearts of millions of Israelis in the midst of an unprecedented terrorist attack by Hamas. This is a time to stop and pray for the merciful intervention of God.

What makes this attack all the more insidious is that it comes almost 50 years to the day of the infamous Yom Kippur War in 1973. At that fateful time, Israel was attacked in the midst of 24 hours of prayer and fasting on the holiest day of the year, Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

The current attack, on Oct. 7, 2023, did not just come on Saturday, the Sabbath, but on what is called Simchat Torah, "the joy of the Torah," the greatest day of celebration on the Jewish calendar. This is the culmination of the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot), a day of singing and dancing and rejoicing.

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