

# Working toward a brighter day



## With your help, we're aiming for our biggest impact in 2021!

Like most ministries, Experience Israel Now won't shed any tears when the year 2020 fades away into one final sunset on New Year's Eve!

With Israel closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic, three of our trips were postponed. With churches holding minimal in-person events, our teaching conferences nearly disappeared.

On the other hand, the crisis created an opportunity to develop two new websites and a biweekly podcast. We'll continue that work in 2021 and pray we can get back to Israel and return to in-person teaching opportunities as soon as possible!

### Teaching in Ghana

In 2019, we had an incredible teaching experience at a seminary in Zambia. Next year, we hope to visit the Northern Ghana Baptist Theological Seminary, where we'll show pastors how to use the land of the Bible in their own ministries.

**Ghana mission trip goal: \$10,000**



### 2020: A blessing in disguise

Our new podcast, "Secrets from the Ancient Paths," was born during the 2020 pandemic. With churches closed, the podcast was our best option of sharing the EIN message.

Already we've seen more than 6,000 downloads of these short lessons. And our audience has spread from Middle Georgia to Canada, the UK, Norway and Australia! In all, we've already had viewers and listeners from 27 countries!

If the trend continues, our Internet ministry may be the most effective tool we've ever developed.

**Podcast investment goal:  
\$25,000**



## Want to help bless our support family in Israel?

Many of you have been to Israel on one of our trips. No doubt, you grew to love your tour guide and bus driver as they led you around the ancient paths.

Over the past 20 years, we've become dear friends with many men and women who've gone out of their way to help us offer hundreds of travelers the "trip of a lifetime." Some are tour guides and bus drivers. Others work at hotels or gift shops.

*All of them have been out of work since the pandemic precautions stopped tourism last March.*

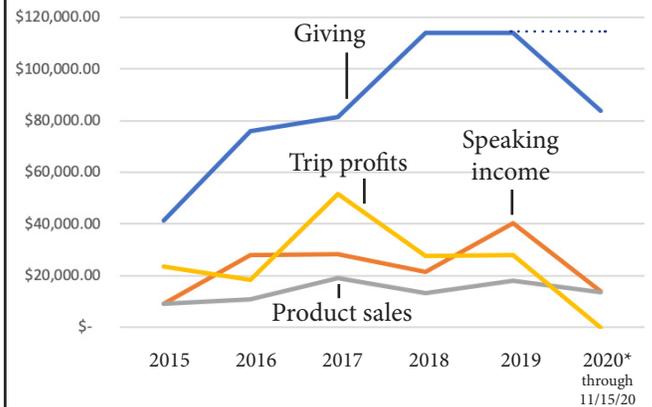
Our ministry has already shared some of its resources with Boaz and Magie Shalgi. We hope to share more with them and others in 2021.

But if you'd like to help us build a special Christmas gift to those who've been such a gift to us, we can be a conduit for you. Unfortunately, gifts like this do not meet the qualifications for tax-deductible status by the IRS.

So if you'd like to provide a gift, please designate it for "Israel assistance." We'll share the funds with our friends in Israel in January.

## 2020 at a glance

Income sources 2015-2020\*



The 2020 pandemic has hit our ministry hard in three areas (trip profits, speaking income and book sales) where we've traditionally generated around \$75,000 a year. Thankfully, our giving in 2020 is on target for a record year.



"Secrets from the Via Dolorosa" was published just in time for Easter ... and the unprecedented church closings because of the COVID-19 pandemic! Even so, sales have been strong.



We had 20 presentations in the first 11 weeks of the year, setting a pace toward 15,000 in attendance this year. Instead, we'll finish the year with only a third of what we saw in 2019.



We're putting the finishing touches on a new recording studio, where we'll be able to use "green-screen" technology in future podcasts.

# Amazing generosity

## Thanks for your help in helping us thrive in 2020!

In 2020, "Experience Israel Now" became "Experience Israel Later." With a new year on the horizon, we're praying for - and working toward - a much better year of ministry!

Our 2020 trips to Israel, which included several pastors on EIN scholarships, have been postponed twice due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our groups are scheduled to travel next May and June, even though Israel is currently still closed to tourists.

In the meantime, churches in America also experienced an unprecedented shutdown in March. Many churches in large cities haven't reopened yet. Those that have opened are seeing a fraction of the attenders they saw this time last year. How difficult this has been for the body of Christ!

At first, the pandemic shut-downs seemed like a life-threatening crisis for our ministry. Much of our annual income comes from trip profits and from our church conferences. Even our book sales were affected, since we sell most of our products at our conferences!

But instead of going out of business, our regular financial supporters came through in an amazing way. That gave me time to finally finish a website for



pastors and develop another website for our brand-new podcast. It took three months to launch the podcast, and we're still making improvements all along the way.

One of the biggest improvements? We're in the process of moving into a new studio thanks to a partnership with our home church, Shirley Hills Baptist of Warner Robins.

As 2021 dawns, I'll travel to Israel as soon as possible to see what the situation is like, even before our tour groups travel there. As churches continue to open, we'll slowly resume a full schedule of EIN Bible conferences. All along the way, we'll also keep producing more on-line content for our growing, international audience of podcast viewers.

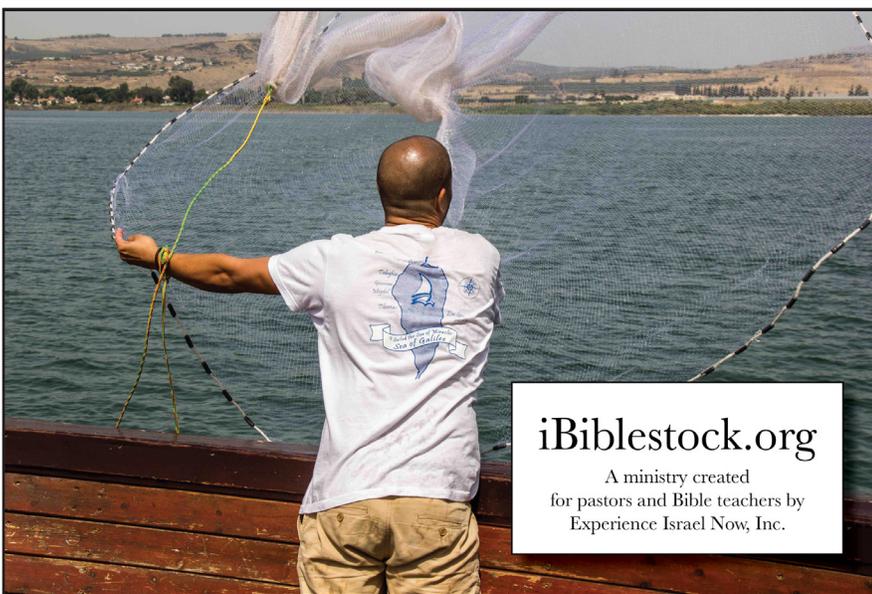
Thank you so much for praying for us, encouraging us and for giving so generously. Together, we're bringing the Bible to life for thousands of people!

*Andy Cook*

# Have you seen these new resources you've helped create?



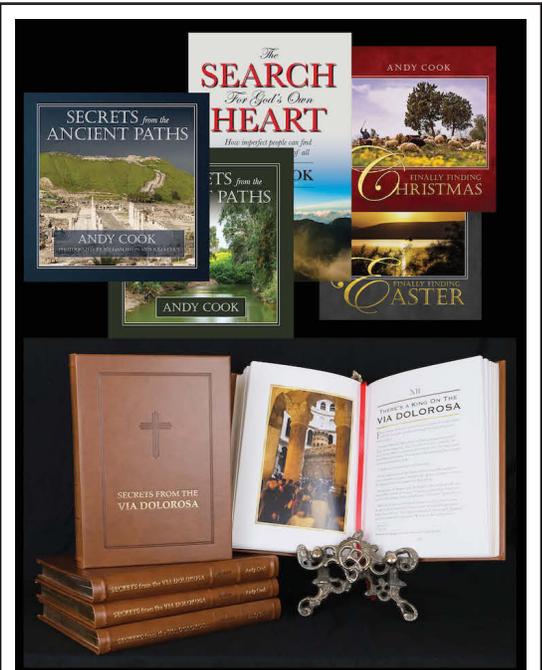
These short audio and video podcasts can be found at [secretsfromtheancientpaths.com](http://secretsfromtheancientpaths.com) or by searching any podcasting platform (like iTunes or Podbean) for “Secrets from the Ancient Paths.” With your help, we’ll be promoting this resource in 2021.



**iBiblestock.org**

A ministry created for pastors and Bible teachers by Experience Israel Now, Inc.

Our free, on-line photo library, [ibiblestock.org](http://ibiblestock.org), has garnered more and more attention from pastors, Bible teachers and Bible readers. It’s an amazing resource that has drawn national publicity!



In addition to our newest book, “Secrets from the Via Dolorosa,” we published new editions of “Secrets from the Ancient Paths” and “More Secrets from the Ancient Paths” this year.

Discover more at [experienceisraelnow.com](http://experienceisraelnow.com). And by all means, make sure you’re getting our free “Photo of the Day!”



Two stone water jars were found in the ruins of a priestly home near the Temple Mount. (William Hain photos).

## “... six stone water jars ...”

In his very first miraculous sign, Jesus famously turned water into wine at a wedding.

Ever notice the detail John gave us about the vessels Jesus used for the miracle? “The six large jars were made of stone, John said (John 2:6).

The water in the jars was used for ceremonial washing as religious Jews prepared for the wedding. Some jars can be used over and over for such purposes, which is why you’ll also find such jars in the ruins of a priestly mansion near the Temple Mount.

