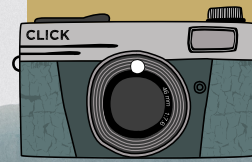


MONTHLY UPDATE

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER
Z5 // JENNA SOLOMON



Hi everyone!

Since I didn't get to send a Z Journal in October, I thought I should introduce myself. I'm Jenna, and I was added as the 11th Z5 member officially in November. I serve as the Media Assistant doing photo and video. I get to provide content for the dispatch magazines, articles and teaching letters, and Zealous. It's been such a blessing to be able to use my passion for photography to bring glory to the One who gave me this gift. I actually came in with no video experience but my manager, Michio, has done such a great job teaching me everything that I know now! Through learning video I've been able to film Zealous introduction videos for all of our members, which is such a cool thing to be a part of because in years past there wasn't an assistant to film them resulting in only one or two Zealous videos being made. I've gotten to travel all around Israel taking photos for Bridges and it's been so incredible to experience the land in this way outside of the CTZ tour.



I can't believe that I'm coming up on my 6th month of living in Israel! The Lord has taught me so much since being here and He continues to show more of Himself to me through His Land. Before I said yes to joining Z5 there were a few things that I was struggling with. I was afraid I wouldn't be accepted by the rest of the team even though I've been a part of Zealous the whole time leading up to that moment. My situation is a bit different as I don't live with the girls. I'm staying at one of the Bridges apartments with a woman from South Africa, and I was also afraid that because I wasn't living with the girls, it would hinder cultivating a friendship and sisterhood with them. The Lord was so gentle towards me during that season of doubt and fear, reassuring me that He has a purpose for me here and that the people He's placed around me were not an accident. The most beautiful thing to witness was the amount of love and celebration that Z5 showed me when it was announced to them that I would be joining the team. They've become my family, and some of my closest friends.



Looking back on the year so far, the two most impactful moments for me were receiving a guitar that everyone in Z5 (plus people outside of Zealous) pitched in to buy me. After one of our excursions I came back to my apartment with a beautiful guitar, a case, strings, and strap all tied with a bow waiting for me on my bed. I remember sinking down on the ground and just cried because I was so thankful for the community of believers that believed in my new passion of learning how to play guitar. They saw potential and they supported me. Before this I was borrowing guitars from other volunteers. It is still something that I get emotional about! The other impactful moment for me was when we went to Timna. I was having a very difficult time getting to the top of the mountain we were hiking. On the way back down it was even harder, and there was one part that so many people were helping me overcome. We had reached an edge that was impossible for me to get down on my own. The amount of encouragement I received from everyone while I was holding onto a friend's hand dangling from the edge because I was too afraid to let go was life changing. Afterwards the Lord brought me back to that moment when I wouldn't let go. He revealed to me that there were things in my life that I had to let go of in order to experience true freedom in Him. I felt so free after I conquered that hike, and He showed me that I would experience that type of freedom times 10 if I just let go and gave it to Him. Abba is so good to us.



My favorite excursion so far is our Timna excursion! Throughout scripture God speaks to people in the wilderness, and He did the same for me when I asked Him for it. The stars in the desert are so beautiful and it reminded me how big our God is and how creative He is. I've always loved the desert and every time I'm out there I come back to Jerusalem feeling so refreshed and rested.



Being here has also given me several opportunities to go on deliveries and pack lots of food for these deliveries. Getting to see everyone come together even though we all come from different cultures and backgrounds has been a blessing. It reminds me that we're all here for one purpose - Jesus. I've felt the Z5 team get closer and closer the longer that we're here. I love these people and this land and I'm still shocked that I'm here living in the very place that Jesus did His ministry. Every delivery I get to go on, and every excursion that we've done has been an incredible experience and God is so evident here.

I'm so expectant for the rest of this year and what God has in store for me and for the rest of our Zealous team. I'm praying for Abba to continue to shape me and set me apart for His purpose. Please pray for me as I think about making the decision to stay longer. Ultimately I want His will and nothing else. Pray for Zealous as we continue to grow closer to Jesus and each other. We have a little over 5 months left together, and I'm so excited for what's to come. God is good and He is faithful!

**Thank you for your prayers and support,
Jenna Solomon**

