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UPCOMING EVENTS

Road Trip to Toowoomba
with Shez 21 Sept- 1st Oct

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STUVAC 12th- 16th Nov

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Roma Project Due
16th Nov

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Exams 19th-23rd Nov
(TBC)

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Graduation 1st Dec

...

Projecting Prayer...

~ AMANDA LEWIS; AUG 4TH 2012 ~

A Time Of FINISHING!

With the 9th August marking two years since I left Romania, it is hard to believe that I only have three months left of college to go.

This last semester of my degree is certainly feeling like a marathon, with what often feels like an overwhelming load to bear. But as I look back on the past two years, I have an amazing peace and assurance for all that the Lord has brought me through. It certainly has been an education!

That said, I was very grateful to receive my results back from last semester and find out that I passed all my subjects. This semester is also filled to the brim with a variety of subjects including:

New Testament: Other Epistles (1 Corinthians and Hebrews).

Theology: The Doctrine of God & The Person and Work of Christ.

Mission: Local Church & Global Mission

Certificate of Biblical Studies Subjects: Revelation; Pastoral Epistles (1 & 2 Timothy and Titus)

Alongside these subjects, I am also doing a Missions Project on:



**Standing in the
Sea of Galilee!**

"The Rroma people in Romania with key ministry approaches needed for the next decade."

As you may have assumed, my heart for the people of Romania is still very strong, and it is my prayer that many of them would come to personally know and accept the love and forgiveness that only Jesus Christ can offer.

Many of you who have heard my story, know that at times God has used very convincing means to show me his will for my life.

The last few months have had their share of circumstances and I would appreciate your prayer as I

consider a ministry proposal to return to a different part of Romania. There are many factors involved in this decision and I am very much seeking the Lord's confirmation as to whether it is the right place and ministry for me to be involved in, as a long term option. I will certainly share more about this as things become clearer and more certain.

With all of this in mind in addition to my college work, it is proving to be an epic semester which is racing past.

I am looking forward to the coming months, including a road trip with Shez, to her hometown in Toowoomba in September.

But I know you are probably keen to hear about my trip to Israel with Malyon College in Brisbane, so...

Please Pray...

» **Praise** that the Study Tour to Israel was amazing and **Pray** as we process everything, that we would be continually challenged and encouraged as we read the Bible with a new perspective.

» **Praise** God that I passed all my subjects last semester and **Pray** for this, my last semester at college, that I can cope with the stress as I study and that I would manage all my commitments and time well.

» **Pray** as I consider and make decisions about future ministry, that I would be sensitive and obedient to God's will, wherever He may lead me.

» **Pray** that the Lord would continue to provide for my financial, spiritual and especially my physical needs, as my body battles against spending so many hours studying.

“But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.” Titus 3:4-5a (NIV)



Check out my Facebook for more photos

A trip of a lifetime around the land of [Israel](#), where the feet of my Lord trod and his words were spoken and heard by many. It is true that until you experience this place for yourself, pictures and descriptions do little justice. This encounter really allowed me to see and appreciate things through fresh eyes and a greater perspective.

Seeing what I had imagined as a vast space with endless desert and huge mountains; European images of nice mangers and people of Caucasian appearance, were all too late erased from my mind. Now thankfully replaced by a more authentic understanding of the places and people I so frequently read about, it is impossible to read the Bible the same way again.

I was struck by the way that the stories make so much more sense when read in context. At one point, whilst travelling on a first century style boat, the engine was cut and Erez, our tour guide, told us to put our left hand out to Magdala and our right toward Bethsaida. That, he told us, is what you can call the 'two-thirds Gospel Triangle'. It is incredible to think that two-thirds of Jesus' ministry took place within such a small location, yet had such an impact and ripple effect as to reach me 2000 years later on the other side of the world.

One of five tombs excavated still with their stones 'rolled away;' a real manger and a first century boat, amongst other things, brought the Bible to life. It was sometimes even more striking to see Old Testament sites and read their stories right where we stood. Seeing a city gate at Laish, that dates back to the time of Abraham; standing between the ridges where the Israelites were on one side and the Philistines on the other in the fight between David and Goliath; Walking through 500m of Hezekiah's tunnel; realising Jericho has only a 1km radius... The list goes on.

Seeing the Dead Sea Scrolls and the caves where they were recovered, really authenticated the Scriptures and reaffirmed what I truly believe. But reading the accounts of the Passion and all that Jesus went through in the last days and hours of his life; singing "I'll never know how much it cost to see my sins upon that cross" and sharing in communion at the Garden Tomb, brought the emotion and reality to heart of the grace my Saviour showed to me.

Excitement, tears and awe sum up what I saw; that Jesus lived and died in a country with a history so rich and yet who like so many in this world, have never opened their heart to the truth and promises of God and His Word. I would love to return to Israel and see more, but if nothing else I am certainly glad I had this opportunity.

I hope this gives you a glimpse of the trip and all that is happening in my life over the last few months. I look forward to the months ahead and am excited to see God working further as He challenges and changes me into the woman of God He desires me to be.

Thank you again, for your love, support and prayers as I continue to seek and serve the Lord wherever he leads.

In His Hands,
~Manda~

Photos:

(Israel): Kez & I; first century Tomb with stone intact; a real manger; 4000 year old gate at Laish; on the Sea of Galilee with the 2/3 Gospel Triangle before us; a first century boat; Hezekiah's tunnel under Jerusalem; at the Garden Tomb with Kez and Shez; Shez and I at the Elah Valley where David defeated Goliath.

(SMBC): Our Second Semester International Commencement Dinner; the girls from my house (35a); Shez and I dressed from Pakistan/Turkey; the After Party.

Sharing the love of God through International Teams



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“For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose.” Philipians 2:13