



## *Celebrate Messiah Australia - Presenters*

All our missionaries are Jewish Believers in Jesus who are equipped to share with your church about the Jewish Roots of the Christian Faith.

### **Lawrence Hirsch**

Lawrence Hirsch is a Jewish believer and Founding Director, together with his wife Louise, of the work of Celebrate Messiah in Australia, New Zealand and in Russia. They have been involved in evangelism, congregation planting, discipleship and mentoring for over 27 years in an international ministry spanning four continents. Today, Celebrate Messiah is in partnership with Chosen People Global Ministries with work amongst Jewish people in 16 countries including Israel. Lawrence is also a Board member of the work of Beit Sar Shalom in Israel and the Rabbi of Beit HaMashiach messianic congregation in Melbourne, Australia.



### **Barry Buirski**

Barry was born in Cape Town, South Africa and was raised in a non-observant Jewish home. After the tragic death of Barry's father and three years engaged in guerrilla warfare in the South African army, Barry was left devastated, angry and empty. In 1981 Barry's now wife Melinda became a believer in Yeshua (Jesus) and in 1985, by the Grace of God, Barry also surrendered all to Him. In 1987 Barry moved to Israel to preach the good news of the gospel to his own people. "What could be more Jewish than following the Messiah!" says Barry. In 1988 Barry and Melinda got married they have two grown children. Since 2001, Barry has been serving with Celebrate Messiah Australia as an Associate Missionary and Evangelist. He regularly leads "See Israel through Jewish Eyes" tours. Barry's passion for the Lord is a blessing to everyone who engages with him. Isaiah 62: 1-2 "For Zion's sake I will not keep silent..."



### **Rita Ivenskis**

Rita is a Jewish believer in Jesus who was born in Odessa, Ukraine and came to live in Australia in 1979. In 1982 she married Elia, a Lithuanian born Jew whose father is a Holocaust survivor. Rita first heard and responded to the Gospel in 1992 but only attended her first church service five years later. Rita also recalls that during this time, as her faith grew in Jesus, she endured increasing persecution from her Jewish family and friends. Rita now works full time with Celebrate Messiah as an outreach worker amongst Russian speaking Jews in Melbourne and in Far East Russia. She graduated from Tabor College after several years study. Rita has been gifted as a "soul winner" and she has a deep love and compassion for her people. She has been used by God to lead many Russian Jewish people to the Lord.



