



# Discovering TJCI



Nancy is a nurse and works part time as a hospice Nurse Practitioner. She and her husband, Chester, live in Georgia. She was born and raised in a Jewish family. Nancy is one of the founding members of the TJCI prayer group in Augusta, Georgia and has recently come to the fullness of faith as a Messianic Jewish believer in Yeshua.

Shalom! This is Nancy from Augusta Georgia. I was born and raised in a Jewish family. Like many Jewish families, we were secular, but celebrated the Jewish holidays. I remember dressing as Queen Esther on Purim and parading around the synagogue with all the other Esthers. My parents sent me to Sunday school at Temple Beth Shalom, where I first read the bible stories and heard about “G-d”. I was so interested in “G-d” that I spent lots of time in my bedroom talking to Him and building a relationship.

When I was nine, Jesus made His presence known to me in my bedroom. I told Jesus he must have made a mistake coming to visit me because I am Jewish! It was clear there was more to Jesus than I was being told.

Many years would pass before I would learn about Jesus and accept Him into my heart as my personal savior. Not having of knowledge of Messianic Judaism, I entered the gentile church thinking it was the next logical step. I mistakenly thought believing in Jesus meant I was no longer Jewish.

The church worked for a while and I learned a lot, but a longing for my Jewish heritage, holidays and traditions would often arise. I was careful to gently push it down, thinking that being in the church meant that I had to move past Jewish things. In fact, I was told by a Catholic priest that the church was the new Israel, so it was ok to put aside my Jewish past.

G-d has a way of changing our direction and placing us on the true path. In June of 2015, I attended the TJCI Leadership Consultation at Baruch HaShem Synagogue in Dallas, Texas and I have never been the same.

Listening to the speakers reconnected me with my Jewish heritage while learning about Messianic Judaism. Each attendee received a copy of Don Finto’s book “*Your People Shall Be my People.*” I cried as I read about the long and painful history between the Jews and the church. While grateful for my time in the church, it was time to leave and stand in my true identity as a Messianic Jew.

At the TJCI Leadership Consultation, I caught the TJCI vision for authentic unity that allows for the full expression of the One New Man spoken of in Ephesians: a vision that serves to hasten the second coming of Yeshua.

Uniting Jew and Gentile through prayer, repentance and reconciliation to heal the painful history between Jews and the church is the most important work of our times. It is both a pleasure and a privilege to be part of this movement of the Ruach HaKodesh.

**By Nancy Andrews, DNP, FNP-BC**