



# Bet Yatir

## CONNECTING GENERATIONS THROUGH BOOKS

The extraordinary story of Bet Yatir, a religious agricultural community in the Judean Desert is one of bold idealism, pioneering, and true self-sacrifice in pursuit of fulfilling a dream. The dream was an ambitious one — to settle their ancestral homeland and partake in fulfilling prophecy.

Forty years ago, Bet Yatir was a barren, isolated desert, surrounded by hostile neighboring villages. Despite the difficult conditions, a few Jewish families set out to establish an agricultural community there. With God's help, these brave souls have transformed the desert into fertile land. Today, Bet Yatir boasts vigorous agriculture enterprises and the community has grown to over 100 families, due to an influx of young families in recent years. Last year, thanks to you, our wonderful CFOIC Heartland supporters, Bet Yatir completed the construction and furnishing of their new daycare center. Today, the community's priority is the library, the beating heart of the community and a center for cultural activities, study and enrichment.

With the move to a new daycare center, the old daycare building became available. For years, Bet Yatir struggled with a very small library situated in a broken-down caravan. It was far too small to accommodate the growing population of the community and the increased need for more books, tables, and computers. The old daycare building is perfect for the new library, but it desperately needs repairs: replace the roof, bring the electrical wiring up to code, painting and more. They have invested the minimal funds available to them to move the library to its new location, but so much still needs to be done to create a safe and fully functioning library.

Bet Yatir families are united around the Bible — its values, its connection to the Divine and its guidance for a better life. Bible study is a core value of the community; but so is study of all kinds. Children are encouraged to visit the library, to participate in story hour and to borrow books that will not only provide valuable recreation but will broaden their horizons as they explore places, people and ideas. The library is also a meeting place for residents, providing programming that encourages creativity, development, and growth for children and adults alike.

**The library is central to Bet Yatir. A community as small as Bet Yatir relies on its library to provide programs that enrich community solidarity and cohesiveness, as well as a place for study, reading and borrowing books. Bet Yatir is asking you to help them turn an old building into an inviting and enriching space for a community library. New computers will enable children to prepare their school projects; new furnishings will allow many more people to visit the library and read or study in comfort. Your donation to support the Bet Yatir library is a gift that will enrich the lives of wonderful people dedicated to living a Biblical life.**

# COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

- ☆ **Founded:** 1979
- ☆ **Location:** Hebron Hills, Judea
- ☆ **Origin of Name:** named for the nearby Yatir Forest
- ☆ **Biblical Significance:** the community's second and lesser-known name, Metzadot Yehuda (the strongholds of Judea), refers to the strongholds to which David fled from King Saul (1 Samuel 23:14)
- ☆ **Population:** 100 families



*Children in Bet Yatir have to sit on the floor at the library to work on projects due to a lack of furnishings*



*You can invest in the children of Bet Yatir who love to read because reading and study are core values in Bet Yatir*

## BET YATIR LIBRARY

### PROJECT BUDGET

Furnishings and Computers .....	21,630
Landscaping .....	14,750
Community Participation .....	-7,590
<b>TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED .....</b>	<b>\$28,790</b>

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