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# Notes from the Director

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Dear Parents,

For many years my husband has thought upon high school graduation every student should tour Europe for six weeks in order to learn about the world. Not only would the students learn world history and geography but they would become socially cosmopolitan. I just returned from a brief trip to Israel where I had the chance to grow in world awareness.

One evening while in Jerusalem, we ate dinner in a small Jewish restaurant with an Iraqi chef. I had somewhat dressed up because we were taking the cab so I could wear my dressy shoes. We were seated at a two top table next to another one. The London couple sitting there initiated a conversation which my husband accepted cheerfully. They were Jewish living in London but they loved the energy of the young people in Israel. After dinner we decided against taking a cab back to the hotel and to walk instead. Remember my shoes? Well after a short while, my feet hurt as I was trudging up a hill. An Arab cabbie stopped and asked if we wanted a ride. He'd driven past me and thought I might need a ride. So he drove back around the avenue just to see.

Jerusalem is a city with religious history for Abraham's three religions, Judaism, Islam, and Christianity. Despite the differences between these people and even despite their uneven history, my interactions there showed me a bit of the world I don't ever see and gave me a little better understanding of life there. I am grateful for those visions and experiences.

One of our goals for all of our students is that they become global citizens. We try to educate the children academically about world history and we extend those in class lessons by also offering "big trips" where some opportunities are available for these kinds of world lessons. Once again, we make every attempt to educate the whole child to be prepared to meet his future. This kind of education enables children to become responsible citizens of not only our country, but of the world.

More later,  
Janice Mattina