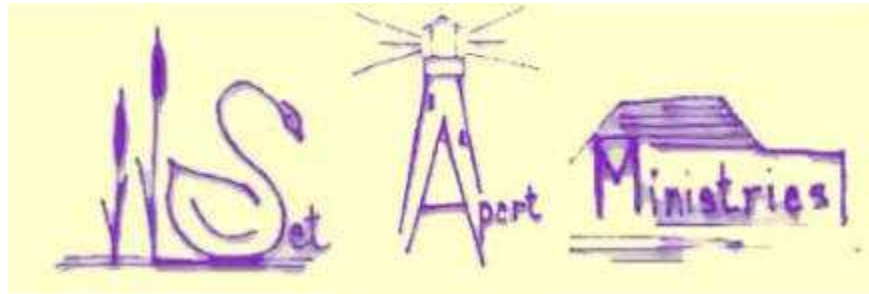


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## Encouragement from S.A.M.

**Shalom Barbara,**

Today we greet you with hope and encouragement to pray for the peace of Jerusalem as we have been commanded to do. The days are getting darker but that can mean that our Redemption is drawing nearer so let us remember the Lifter of our heads!

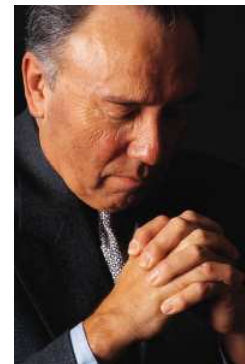
Our little community has been blessed with insights as to our maturity in our prayer life. What Marilyn, Janell and Barb were shown one week in prayer was greatly expanded by our Life Model group members! The excitement was contagious as each one recalled what it was like to pray as a new Believer, some of the events along the way in maturing and then, the quietness that fell as we considered what our prayers might sound like as we more fully embrace the position of being the Betrothed Wife of our Messiah! We will share the basic outline in this issue and will be developing more in the coming weeks and months.

We continue to address the concerns those in their First Year of Torah observance likely will have. The subject today is the need to re-assess faith in light of what has been newly understood. This will probably continue over several issues. Batya Wootten responded to our last newsletter with words of encouragement for those who may still struggle with the issue that was first in importance among our survey responders: their personal feelings of anger, sadness and regret. She says: *I think it helps us deal with the idea of not having been taught the truth when we see that the non-Jewish Believers (Ephraim) are part of the people of Israel, and that they too were blinded; they too have stumbled over the Sanctuary that is Messiah Yeshua (Gen 48:19; Isa 8:13-14; John 2:19-22; Rom 11:25; Eph 2:11-22). If we can understand that they too were hardened, it helps us to be able to forgive and to have mercy on them, even as we have mercy on the Jewish people who do not yet see the Divine Messiah. We need to trust that our Father*

## An Equipping Ministry

January 14, 2006

### Maturity in Our Prayer Life



Last time, we began discussing Maturity Levels as written in the *Life Model*. Maturity in all areas of our lives is one of our goals at Set Apart Ministries. The last few weeks, *YHWH* has been placing upon our hearts to seek maturity in our prayer lives as well as the other areas. As we began to wrestle through prayer and discuss this in our ongoing *Life Model* group, we drafted a basic outline. This will be an ongoing work as we pray to understand more of what *YHWH* desires for us. We are inviting any

*has been in charge and will yet make the two sticks of Ephraim and Judah "one in His hand" (Eze 37:15- 28). end quote*

Our new teleconference for single women coming into Messianic Torah observance is announced for the fourth Sunday evening of each month. The teleconference about the Life Model is also coming up quickly.

Praise Yahshua! And thanks to volunteer, Al, for making it happen! **Our survey for Messianic Fellowship Leaders is now available at our website.** You will see it in the navigation box to the left side. We need your help to reach a significant number of leaders in order to establish the validity of the data. We would like to reach 400 leaders. Will you complete this yourself if you are in leadership or pass it on to those who are? May you be blessed for your assistance.

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- [Reassessing our Faith](#)
- [Keeping Your Joy Full!](#)
- [Teleconference Announcements:](#)
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## Reassessing our Faith

As we come into an understanding of our Hebraic Heritage it becomes evident along the line that some of the things we had previously understood now need to be re-examined and considered in the new light. It seems to be this very need that can shake some people so deeply that they turn back.

May it not be so! Our faith and belief in Messiah Yahshua's birth, death and resurrection will not be shaken as we get better acquainted with Him. We appreciated Lew White's analogy in the introduction of his book [Fossilized Customs](#) Lew's observations:

*TRUTH AND LIES: Let's imagine you are 1000 feet in the air, standing on the high steel framework of a new skyscraper under construction. You are supported by each of the steel girders below you, and the massive concrete foundation resting on the bedrock of the Earth. Your primary interest at this point is your safety. The girders below must each be riveted well to one another, because if even ONE is just jammed in with no rivets, the whole structure*

feedback and ideas as we process and seek. Please email us at [info@setapartmingb.org](mailto:info@setapartmingb.org) with your ideas. Our plan is to eventually compile an in-depth article or even a book on prayer life maturity. We are excited about seeking and experiencing what *YHWH Elohim* may have in store for us. Join us in this quest!

I want to remind you that this article is a work in progress as we seek *YHWH's* direction. Also, remember as we have talked about maturity in our lives, it doesn't signify our value as a child of the King. Neither is it to imply that where we happen to be along the way is the full expression He is calling us into. *YHWH* is always working in our lives to stretch and refine us until *Yahshua* comes again. So, take an honest look at your prayer life. Is *YHWH* trying to teach you something? Has your prayer life been lacking? Has your relationship with *Abba* been as intimate as you'd like it to be? We were actually pleasantly surprised when we realized that the levels of maturity in prayer life also fit well with the model provided by Shepherds House. This seems to us another

*could fall at any moment! Any girder with no rivets is like a lie, because you put your trust in it as if it were the truth. The only way to know if each girder is "true" is to closely examine each one. To appear to be a part of the structure is not enough in itself, because you place your trust in every girder below you believing that they are "true". end quote*

Every thing we have been taught over the years goes into the establishment of our faith and confidence in Messiah's work on our behalf. Now, we see where some of these things have been called into question. Rather than hang back, we urge people to confess their fear to Him and then to go on with the process. He will not fail you! His Word and Promises are true. Some of our expressions of faith may fall, but not the Person of our faith relationship!

This personal reassessment of faith is one part of the process that occurs. In my re-evaluation I also did research into the history of the church, starting with my Lutheran background and moving back to the early church Fathers. It also included an assessment of what pagan and sun worship expressions of faith looked like. It is the preponderance of information in each of these areas that brought my intellectual understanding up to speed, if you will, with what the *Ruach*/Spirit was telling my heart.

We will continue next time with more information on what this reassessment can involve. Your thoughts are always welcome along the way.

## Keeping Your Joy Full!

Barb and I have been having chuckles as she's been telling me about a joyful book she's been reading once again (*Sadie Shapiro's Knitting Book--a novel*) Sometimes we get so bogged down by all the paperwork, the bad news and life, we forget to read something just for enjoyment! Some of my favorites were the James Herriot series of books about animals. The first one was *All Creatures Great and Small*. I found myself laughing out loud many times while reading these treasures. What's your favorite?

## Teleconference Announcements:

Marilyn Guffey will be offering a FREE Introductory Telephone Conference class on Monday, January 23, at 7:00



confirmation of what He is doing in His people.

The Life Model defines five levels of maturity based on a number of studies and Scriptural support. Physical aging doesn't guarantee maturity. The five different maturity levels in the *Life Model* are: *the Infant Stage, the Child Stage, the Adult Stage, the Parent Stage and the Elder Stage*. The look or sound of our prayer life is influenced by our maturity level. Here are our **initial** thoughts about each of these stages. What do you think about maturity in prayer? Where do you see yourself? What do you remember about being a new believer? What differences might it make in your prayer life if it closely matches the maturity of your faith?

### 1. The New Believer.

Prayers tend to be "me" centered, probably joyful and excited. Aware of the blessings *Yahshua* has given them. Prayers are generally focused on asking for blessings for their own decisions--"help me to...." kind of prayers. The New Believer is usually unaware of "the cost" and expectations of coming into the Kingdom. May perceive God as brother or friend most

p.m. CST. This class is based on the principles of the *Life Model: Living from the Heart Jesus Gave You* by *The Shepherd's House*.

Because of struggles or abuse throughout life, people may have gaps in their maturing process that interfere with their productivity and relationships. This isn't their fault and the good news is--they're not stuck either!

Do you find yourself just "blowing up" for no reason, find it hard to confront people or to "fit in" groups? Do you have constant struggles in your relationships or have you ever heard "Awww, just GROW UP!?" This group may have some answers for you.

Some of the topics covered are:

- How brain function plays a part in maturing and healing
- How Joy plays an important role in maturity
- The Stages of Maturity, the important tasks of each stage and the problems that result from uncompleted tasks
- Love Bonds vs. Fear Bonds
- What people can do to help one another to mature

This will be an introductory group. The only cost to you is a long-distance phone call. If you choose, you may go on to a 10-week class which will be offered at the cost of \$20 per hour class, two times per month or \$40 per month. This class is confidential. It will be conducted on a first-name basis.

### **ANNOUNCING MONTHLY TELECONFERENCE FOR SINGLE WOMEN COMING INTO A TORAH LIFESTYLE**

**WHEN:** Sunday evening, January 22 (Fourth Sunday of each month)

**TIME:** 6:30 - 7:30 pm CST

**REGISTER:** Contact us at the email or phone listed below. Receive the telephone number and necessary codes to come into the conference.

We will be discussing three things: The Blessings of Coming into Torah Observance, The Challenges, and The Solutions that people have found to date.

If you don't like to talk, just come on in and listen! We know

easily.

**2. Becoming More Serious about Faith.** Beginning to be aware that there are expectations for being in the Kingdom, including discipline and "pruning". Struggling to be humble yet still expecting one's own expectations to be met. Often easily discouraged. Unbelief and doubt quickly come in. May perceive Father and Son as Lord and a beginning awareness of the Spirit working in their life.

**3. Becoming a Servant of YHWH.** Developing an awareness of the goals of humility, that one's own expectations may not be the goal. Occasionally able to trust without understanding. Beginning to understand that it is God's plan that is important, not one's own ideas. May still be easily discouraged at times. Beginning to perceive Father, Son and Spirit as King and Lord but perhaps in a more abstract sense.

**4. Becoming a Bond Servant of YHWH.** Most often aware of *Elohim's* plan as of paramount importance. Increasing sense of intimacy with Him. Most often able to release one's own expectations in favor of whatever unknown plan God has without daily

that there are things everyone needs to talk about as they work through these reassessment issues and hope that this will become a regular opportunity for women alone to do so!

[Read more about Maturity....](#)

### About Us

**Barbara L. Klika, MSW, LCSW, Personal Life Coach** is a licensed mental health professional and founder of Set Apart Ministries, Inc., in practice since 1983 with an abiding interest in working with attachment/bonding and maturity issues for individuals, couples, and groups. She has been a congregational leader for over 20 years in several areas, including Bible Study and vocal and handbell choir direction. She is also a certified Bethel Bible Study teacher who has participated in serious study of the Word since 1993 through such organizations as Precepts Ministries and First Fruits of Zion. She has completed basic coaching training through MentorCoach, Inc. and will be continuing work toward an additional Masters degree in coaching. Barb has provided the clinical leadership in pursuing the Life Model group and individual teaching and processing emotional and maturity issues for the past 3 years. She offers her gifts of exhortation, discernment, intercession and prophecy to the Body of Messiah, both locally and in our extended community via telephone and the Internet.



**Marilyn T. Guffey, lay counselor, Personal Life Coach.** Marilyn had been a congregational leader in her home church for over 20 years, providing Bible study, worship opportunities and lay counseling for women in transition for most of that time. She has completed her basic coaching training through MentorCoach, Inc. Marilyn has been the coleader in the provision of group and individual teaching and processing emotional and maturity issues for the past 3 years. Marilyn is a serious student of the Word and has participated in and provided many Bible study opportunities, most recently with First Fruits of Zion and numerous additional Messianic Torah study materials. She thrives on offering her gifts of mercy, discernment, encouragement, intercession and helps and has a strong desire to support the Body of Messiah in growing in maturity and faith, both locally and in our extended community via telephone and the Internet.

**Board Member (VP) and support person Janell Schroeder, BBA** works professionally as a computer reports specialist for a very large transportation company. She has been instrumental in the founding of Set Apart Ministries, functioning as a support person for people going through trauma recovery. She has attended numerous training experiences in this area and has participated in the Life Model program since its beginning. Janell is a certified Bethel Bible study teacher as well as a certified Precepts Bible Study teacher. She has also been in leadership in her previous congregation as a member of church council and in Adult and Child Education She is currently working on her Bachelors Degree in Messianic Studies and plans to complete a Masters Degree through

questioning. Struggling, developing humility. Looking beyond man's traditions and perceptions to God's directions and ways of serving and worshipping Him as He defines it. Perceiving Father, Son and Spirit as King and Personal Master over one's life.

### 5. *Becoming the Betrothed Wife.*

Humility, personal expectations are submitted to the Father's plan. Most often unquestioning trust in His goodness and plan. Confident to approach the Throne of Grace boldly with expectations of results. An affectionate, confident presumptuousness, yet within the bounds of the intimacy of the relationship while still acknowledging Him as King, yet standing with Him as a purified, set apart Bride, as Wife, sharing His Throne(?) and purpose.

Well, what do you think?  
We pray this is as exciting for you to explore as it is for us!  
May we all continue to grow up into Him Who is our Head!

### Quick Links...

[Messianic Israel Alliance](#)

the Messianic Bible Institute Yeshiva. She brings her spiritual gifts of teaching and helps to our home Set Apart Ministries Community.

**Board Member, Secretary Treasurer: Robert Klika, BS** Bob currently works professionally as a supervisor in the area of milk sanitation for the Wisconsin Dept. of Agriculture. Bob has been a leader in previous congregations through service on church council as well as in men's ministries. He provides leadership in several areas of our home community, particularly in the areas of practical arrangements for gatherings, youth ministry and fun nights, and corporate prayer as well as keeping accounts and necessary organizational paper work. He completed his high school education in a Roman Catholic Seminary and has participated in Bible study since then through several studies, including the Bethel Bible Study series and Messianic Torah for the past 4 years through First Fruits of Zion and many additional supplemental materials. He offers his gifts of helps and administration in our home Set Apart Ministries community.

[Messianic Leadership Concerns Survey](#)

[First Year Torah Observance Survey](#)

[Fossilized Customs](#)

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phone: 920 432-5002

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**[Please pass this newsletter on to those you know who are new to Walking in Torah and those in Messianic Community Leadership.](#)**

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