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Encouragement from Set Apart Ministries

April 2007

Shalom!

We have begun the new year's moedim once again as we continue our annual rehearsals for Messiah's return. Even so, come quickly! This year our Pesach celebration was joyful with the participation of four people for the entire week of gatherings. These people are sort of like our "extended family" relatives who live further away and come when they can. What a blessing to worship and feast together it has been.

Growing pains never stop along the way either it seems; challenges to grow in Messiah in every way, and particularly through misunderstandings and miscommunications that abound in every feast season. Is it the same for you? We are so honored that He sees us through them all; what we believe to be part of our preparation for world events and events within relationships when He does return. May we be found ready!



Theresa Bates of Adonai Dance was such an inspiration that we now have a number of ladies with very special praise garments, worn for the first time at our Pesach gathering. Plans are also under way for more individual ones as

Teleconferences



April 29, 2007 9:00 AM CST "For (ALL) Women Only" teleconference

Our subject for this month teleconference is: What do you say when they say,...."So, you're Jewish then?"

As noted above, we think all would benefit from reading [Dean Wheelock's article on this subject, What's in a Name?](#) and especially so for those who will participate in the conference.

well as a group of them in the same material to share with guests who might like to participate. Many thanks to the seamstresses among us.

Intercessory prayer has taken on new depth and meaning for us in the past few weeks as we have been challenged once again by the Ruach to learn even more about the sacrificial nature of His intercession, and what it means for us. Encouragement to deepen and widen our prayer lives is the theme of the next few months.

Does it seem unusual to you that such a challenge would come just as we are beginning to distribute our Maturity in Prayer Life audio teaching? He keeps us ever humble as He shows us yet another area of growth, personally and corporately. The Spirit and the Bride say, Come! And so we shall pray. (Our grateful thanks go to Rob Marnocha who is working on the CD graphics, and along the way, took the time to "spruce up" our logo. Did you notice the difference?)



Part two of the Lashon Hara series, Responding to Lashon Hara from a Distant Source will be found a little further down the page. It never ceases to surprise us as we consider different areas of our faith walk and relationships how much the understanding of maturity informs us all along the way.

Marilyn will be stepping back from many of her usual responsibilities as she is making some major life transitions over the next few months. She can still be reached in the office at least several days a week. She will continue her series of articles in several months and in the meantime, will appreciate your prayers as she makes these changes.

This months For Women Only Teleconference is scheduled for next weekend. Subject for this month is: What do you say when they say: "So, you're Jewish then?" We encourage all those who struggle with how to answer this observation to read [Dean Wheelock's excellent article on this subject](#) and especially

This teleconference is open to all women who are coming into a Torah observant lifestyle whether single, widow, divorced or yes, even married and even if your spouse is Torah pursuant! It seems we women always appreciate the opportunity to share problems and solutions. Coming into Torah is no exception. So, please, all you Torah pursuant women, come one and all to join the discussion.

The teleconference lasts just about one hour and thanks to the generous donation of one of our supporters is again free of charge to call in this month.

Our discussion will follow the format below: Introductions and Get Acquainted Time Discussion Time Topic for the Day: "So, you're Jewish then?" Prayer Concerns and closing

Every month we will send out a reminder prior to the conference, with the telephone number and PIN number to use to enter into this month's discussion!

Please join us for Messiah-centered and sensible solutions to the concerns we face as we pursue a Torah walk in a non-Torah society! If you have any questions, you can reach either Marilyn Guffey or me Monday through Thursday at (920) 336-7005

Messianic Leadership Concerns Teleconference

Registration for this teleconference series will be found on the first page of our website, sliding in from the side as you open it.

Times for the call are set up as each group is formed to accommodate all the participants.

Here is an opportunity for those who provide leadership in a Messianic community, even if it's only two other people!

think it would be helpful for the teleconference participants.

May we all keep Jerusalem in our prayers as we stand as Watchmen while our Elohim's plans unfold.

Barb Klika

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Part 2 Lashon Hara-Responding to an Accusation from a Distant Source



Assessment of Need for Response when the Lashon Hara Report comes from a Distant Source

What does one do when becoming aware that some kind of negative or hostile report has been passed on? It may be through a casual remark made by someone you know well that it becomes evident they have heard something uncomplimentary. As has

happened for us, we have had a visitor tell us after a Shabbat gathering that they had been advised not to go anywhere near us because we didn't have the Spirit or know how to pray, and because we used "that FFOZ material." Upon further discussion, it became evident that the people making this assessment had never even met any of us, but had drawn these conclusions in some other way. The individual observed that she learned her lesson; to check things out for herself, without listening to such reports.

Although this was a grief to hear, there was really nothing that could be done directly to deal with such second hand statements. It was actually a two-for-one comment because the reflection on FFOZ wasn't kind either! We elected to prayerfully bring this up to our Abba and ask for His intervention.

We are now offering this open forum by telephone to discuss difficult relationships, conflict resolution, anger management, and so forth. Without the extra expense of traveling you can obtain support and professional consultation for the relationship issues you deal with on a daily basis.

[Click here for registration information!](#)

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On another occasion, as may be more common, someone that had been casually acquainted with Barb, was reported to have made derogatory comments about what we are doing. In this case, there was a little personal attachment involved but very minimal. The person involved had not been in touch with Barb since before the founding of Set Apart Ministries so really couldn't be expected to have a clear understanding. The person who brought this report to us was also able to respond in similar fashion at the time, observing that she was certain prayer had been the foundation for SAM. In this case, too, we considered if any direct action should be taken. As we envisioned attempting to speak with the person face to face, we became clearly aware that without the presence of the individual who had heard the comment, it would be very difficult to address.

We did not want to give any further attention to such behavior and in any way "reward" it and certainly did not want to contribute to the discomfort of the person who had already dealt with it as best she could. While there may even be a question as to whether or not it was wise for the person to have told us this happened, there wasn't anything we could do about that either. The individual felt burdened by what had occurred and needed to release it. Again, we appealed to our Abba for His intervention.

These situations seem to be a testing ground or learning situations. It is often painful to bear the knowledge in ourselves that we struggle to be all that we are called to be, let alone being accused by an "invisible" accuser who may be saying all manner of things, whether based in fact or fiction. The more public or large a ministry grows, the more it seems to be open season for comments about leaders, whether the person who speaks has the knowledge to do so or not. This same thing happens to those not in leadership as well but leaders seem to be subjected to it more often.

Press in to our strong tower of Refuge, Yeshua ha Maschiach; trusting that He will do what He will do, in His place and time for those whom we cannot hold accountable directly. It's one of those character building times a wise mother would always tell you to expect some time in your life. It is also a comfort to have trusted friends and colleagues who will stand with you and allow you to experience your feelings without censure as you also intercede for those who have offended. It may be pure malice or vindictiveness on their part or they may have woundedness and maturity needs of their own. We can trust that our Creator knows and has known the situation long before it even occurred, and will make good on His promise to work it together for the good of those who love Him.

Next Month: Assessment of the Need for Response when Lashon Hara comes from a Source Close to Your Heart, and Adjustment for Maturity Factors

Keeping Your Joy Full!

What does Fear have to do with Joy?

There is a lot to be said for some human fears, as there is for some kinds of pain. Fear can be healthy in playing a role that provides safety. Fear points out the danger zones, and makes doubly certain that our errors of judgment are corrected. Fear of failure provides the caution that tightens every bolt. Many of life's greatest achievements have been brought about by response to fears of one kind or another.



Yet in the end we must give our human fears a minus sign. They will never take home the medal or win the trophies of life. Too often they are the weapons of that accuser, the devil, and we know that Jesus Christ at the cross delivered us from the powers of darkness. It is joy--often the joy of the struggle -- that provides the motive to start and complete a great work. It is joy, not fear, that teaches courage and bravery in overcoming great obstacles and eventually bringing home victory.

When I look back over my years of experience, it seems that on balance joy usually becomes the winner over fear. That is because fears and worry are so often based on things that never happen. They are vapors that vanish in the light of day. Joys, too, can be ephemeral when they are earthbound, for they often have a way of disappearing, quietly or noisily. But the joy of the Lord--there is something that will last!

The message of the Bible then, is that joy is not blotted out by fear or adversity. It simply waits until the real cloud passes. It does not deny the existence of the cloud; it does not despise the cloud or fight. It waits, knowing that when at long last the sky clears, the joy will shine brighter than ever.

Used with permission of Sherwood E. Wirt, author of Jesus, Man of Joy, Chapter Fourteen, When Joy Meets Fear, page 112, Harvest House Publishers, 1999.

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 5 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 5 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 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 6 years through First Fruits of Zion and many additional supplemental materials.

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