

About Communion

Dear Salome,

I just finished talking with you on the phone. It made me so happy to hear your voice. You are an enduring friend to us. Being here in ^[the -z] South, I often think about you and appreciate your faithfulness. Thank you for caring for us like you do. We really don't want to be a burden to ^[the -z] church

It takes so much more money when we are away from the community. I wish we didn't need to be gone so much, but somehow our Father is leading us.

We visited the place called the Farm in middle Tennessee. You remember them don't you? They were really a booming community until a couple of years ago. Now they have dropped from 1600 people to 400 and those left have their *own* jobs and living quarters. It is another proof that the natural man cannot overcome greed. Greed is in every man, no matter how nice and giving he may be. Yahshua warned us to be on guard for every form of greed. We can only overcome greed by the power of His Holy Spirit. Only in the church is this possible. The Farm was a good idea — but an impossible one. Man's selfishness is his downfall. Even the church will fall away if we do not continue to *deny* ourselves — take up the cross and follow Him. We are always so close to falling away. We have only endured these last 12 years because we have continued *fervent* in our love for our Master and one another. That does not mean we have been sinless, but we have confessed our sins and continued in communion with the Father. Salome, there is so much opposition to remaining in communion, isn't there? "Because of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold." Do you feel your love growing cold sometimes? I sure do. It comes to me when I am not seeking the Father's will for me in my daily life. I find that I have been going on for a while in my *own* plans. I begin the day with my plans and end the day with my plans. And I feel my love growing cold. "Falling away is an unconscious process." We must be *consciou*s — to seek the Father's will. If not, we do our will, which is lawlessness.

The community will soon fall apart just like the Farm if we are lawless. Because the *only thing* which holds us together has been abandoned — *COMMUNION* with our Father. It doesn't seem like it matters that much does it? *Outwardly*, I may come down to the kitchen first thing in the morning to do breakfast. I stay in the kitchen while the others sing and pray because "I'm busy." I continue the day doing my chores, being pleasant with those around me — never thinking of our Master Yahshua. I talk with my sisters about many things that day, but not about Salvation and the Kingdom of God — I'll leave those things for the teachers to talk about at the meetings. I'm busy from dawn to dark with all the household matters. I have *no time* to read the words of our Master or to pray. Someone asks me if I can do such and such tomorrow; I say "Sure!" I never think to say, "If our Master wills," because I never think about "Doing our Master's will." I'm just busy "in the Kingdom." But is it really the Kingdom, or am I living at the Farm in Tennessee?

Each member of the Body must be vitally connected to the Head, or else the falling away is already beginning. The temperature of the body begins to go down as each lawless member gets a little bit colder. Soon that lukewarm body will be spewed from the Sovereign's mouth.

I was reading the words of our Master at the end of the gospel of John (Jn 21). He was speaking to Peter about *love*. He kept asking Peter in verse 15 if he loved Him. Our Master wanted Peter to prove his love by feeding His lambs. Shepherding His sheep; feeding His sheep. This is before the power of the Holy Spirit had come upon Peter. Our Master wanted it to be very clear to him what was expected of him. Peter wasn't a fisherman anymore; he was to be tending to sheep. This was the *first priority*. He may still have gone fishing from time to time if there was a need for fish, if it was the *Father's will*.

Because a little earlier in the chapter, verse 2, it talks about how *Peter decided* to go fishing and some of the others *decided* to go with him. It says they fished all night and did not catch *one* fish. These men were excellent fishermen in their past, probably not accustomed to such a bad catch. But they were no longer their own, they had been bought with a great price, so that they would spend the rest of their lives in doing only the Father's will. Our Master showed them that He could give them lots

and lots of fish if *He wanted*. He cooked their breakfast for them and fed them a fine meal. But our Master told Peter, "Feed my lambs..." We can learn a lot from this. (Verse 18 seems to be saying this same thing about lawless plans.)

Salome, you and I (and all of us) have been called just like Peter was. We might be good at a lot of things in our flesh, but the Father wants a people who are led by His Spirit. These are the sons of Yah. He has given us so much good food with which we can feed His sheep over the last 12 years. We *know* a lot, but we must share it

Our enemy keeps us bound up by dullness (which is an outcome of lawlessness) and we cannot be that way. I think you are much like me. I think you experience the same things I do in a lot of ways. Yoneq told our household in Island Pond one day that if we would just start reading in the gospels we would fall in love with our Master. I began to do that, just reading a little at a time, and it was true. As I read the marvelous things He said and did, my heart began to stir. I am falling in love with my Savior. Also, I must be aware of how lawlessness (doing my own plans) is very wicked. I must be careful to ask the Father what His will is for me that day. Then I can have a clear conscience.

One other thing. What you said on the phone reminded me of something Deb Brooks once said to me after being in Boston for a while. She said she felt like she was starving for life down in Boston, so she went to Island Pond one weekend to be revived. She knew that she and Bob would soon be moving back up there and had been very glad. But when she arrived in Island Pond they were stretched very thin (like you said they were when you went last time). She said they were having a very hard time there and many people were "going through it." When she got back to Boston she said she was glad to be back there because it was worse for her in Island Pond. She said she didn't even want to move back because she needed life but everyone there was having a harder time than her. Her attitude was wrong, totally self oriented. When we see a brother suffering, our heart should be to run to his aid, not to run away from him. We are like the Good Samaritan, who rushes to help those in need. We are sheep feeders. No matter how dry (of life) we may feel, if we just cry out to our Father for bread He will give it to us to share with our brother. He doesn't give us bread to get fat on ourselves. He gives us enough to share. Her attitude should have been, "I can't wait until we move back there to help our brothers", but she was self centered. Of course, she changed, and really has become a life giving spirit there in the church. I know you didn't have that attitude, but were merely telling me that *even* Boston is calm compared to Island Pond. But if it is hard in Island Pond right now, you may hear comments when people come to visit down there about "wanting to get away to an easier place." Please encourage the brothers and sisters you see from Island Pond to deny themselves and *follow Yahshua*. (Our Master said that to Peter there near the end in verses 19 and 22.) We must continue to die daily. Somehow, we are always trying to work things out to be the most convenient and comfortable for *ourselves* and *our* family and forget that we are disciples. We become good Americans when we please ourselves; we become good disciples when we deny ourselves. We must be careful of working ourselves into a comfortable situation.

Salome, I really didn't expect to write so much when I started this letter. I just wanted to share my heart and my love with you because you are my friend. Remember: even our besetting sins will one day be put under the feet of our King, *IF* we continue in communion with our Father.

To His Honor,

Ha emeq

P. S. Yoneq just told me that before I hung up the phone from talking with you he had wanted to get back on and tell you that he remembers the days when you were *always* reading the Bible and he feels that you need to return to that love you had for His Word. This is just what you need to do (he says).

He loves you too, Salome

P. P. S. Tell Deborah and Andrew that we are so happy about their little girl. She must have a special place in the Father's plan for the end times.