

Teacher's Meeting

This was a teacher's meeting held to hear from our Father concerning the future direction of the education of our children. Among those attending were Yoneq, Ha-Emeq, Hakam and Havah; Yakin and Savav, Ehud, Yonah, Reya and Olah, and Qatan from Island Pond; Yemimah Ryland from Burlington; Deshe and Ruth from Lancaster; Takif, Arianne, and Bakhirah from Bellows Falls; and Melody, Racham and Miriam from Boston.

Mt 18:17-20 — If we can gather in His name we have a promise of Him being with us. We will make bad judgments if He is not with us. We may have made bad judgments in the past. One decision we made will be talked about today. Our children being sent off to training and not being with their parents is an issue. Maybe it was for the best because of this first generation — maybe it was better to get them away from their parents and have to be with their peers. Sometimes we snatch older girls from their parents to be in another household. Yasha Lo Nekar really cried when she was sent to another house to work there. Maybe in the coming generation children will be a part of their parents' house until marriage. The bad qualities of the parents have to be filtered out over three or four generations. Even though we have (temporarily) lost some of our children we may find out we weren't such bad parents after all. To the extent that we can gather in His name then He will be with us (or in the midst of us). If we've actually come together in His name, then there's no way we can make bad judgments. We always have grace, but we are not always using it. Sometimes we bury the grace we have. He doesn't do His will apart from us.

Batach has a wonderful natural gift of expressing herself, but her talent would be the grace she received to use this gift for His glory. She could use her gift in the natural realm and it would look good, but she would end up bankrupt. The flesh is mighty; it is right next to the spirit. It looks just like the spirit. So we need to acknowledge our Master in every meeting. When we speak it must be the very utterance of God. **1 Peter 4:11.**

Ehud: We have to be seeking what is best for our children, not what is most convenient.

Reya: We can pile up reasons and do whatever has the greatest pile of reasons. Instead of just weighing out the pros and cons of a decision, we need to be Israel — led by our King and led by the Holy Spirit.

Yonah: It seems like He would be with us according to how desperately we needed Him; that He would be with us according to our faith.

Hakam: What really spoke to me was the words, 'when you come together.' That coming together is what determines whether we are gathering in His name — whether we are in our own strength, speaking our own words, reasoning, our minds clouded by earthly things or have a bad conscience. Our Father wants that it would be a conscious thing when we come together. It is good that we are hearing the word first before discussing important matters — it cleanses us.

We come together to bind something on earth. What if we bind something on earth that is not bound in heaven. Then He is not with us.

Hakam: We can't become self-conscious or selfish or aware of our sin. If we do we can't come together where He is. Our conscience won't let us.

1 Jn 5:14 — If we believe He hears us, then we have our requests. Heb 4:16 applies to us at this time as well. If we sense our need for grace, we must approach His throne. We can excel in our natural graces until we end in dismay. We have great natural graces and gifts here, great power of the flesh. So, let us confidently go to the throne of grace because He has taken away our sin. It doesn't matter what we've done, what accusations we are under because we have a great high priest. His blood provided for the law we've broken. He takes the consequences of breaking the law away and puts the law in our heart. That is the New Covenant.

He understands that we are in a great spiritual battle, assaulted night and day to lead us astray — because He was. He can sympathize with us. The wages of sin — breaking the law — is death.

We prayed.

Ha-Emeq: I started thinking about this after Tamar Nedebeh came to Sus. I couldn't understand why she acted so big — like an adult. She carried herself like she was 25 and it took us a long time to get her to be a 12-year-old. We couldn't give her a youth celebration because she thought she was already an adult. (I wanted her to have a sweetness in her speech that she didn't have. So she tried sounding like me but that is not what I meant.) When I came to America I saw at the Old Schoolhouse how the children were running the restaurant. They were so separate from the adults and were judging situations they didn't have the authority to. In Manasseh they don't seem to know their children. They may be reading the teaching "Our Children," but they don't know their children well enough to talk to them about it. It seems like we might need more parental involvement.

I remember a conversation I had with Ruth years ago when she talked to me about putting training in the homes. After discussed it I felt like we should keep their peer groups together so that when they were sent out as adults, they would be tightly knit together. Maybe I didn't really hear what Ruth was trying to say and made a mistake in what we decided.

What they have is something strong between themselves that is almost a bar or separation from their parents.

There appears to be something foundationally wrong. The family unit needs to be strengthened.

Even seeing the Yellow House was a surprise with all the classrooms and desks. It looked like a school — not that I thought there was anything wrong with it. Naomi said she didn't like it. In Sus we moved to the farm with nine levels of children and they wanted nine teachers to move there. We said no, that a good teacher can teach more than one level. Yemimah Ryland wrote a letter really appreciating the fact that she lives in a clan and how she feels more of a connection with the parents and the children.

Reya: In Island Pond right now it takes far more than we are doing for the teachers to be close to the parents of the children they are teaching. There are problems whenever you have a community of more than one house — of transportation, communication, etc. It seems like we need to train teachers to teach multiple levels effectively.

Yakin: We knew a woman in Nova Scotia who taught 35 children on all levels. She did it by using the older children to teach the younger.

Is teaching several levels effective?

Ha-Emeq: When we moved to the farmhouse we had three levels per teacher with two or three languages per group.

Reya: What is important is that parents send their children teachable.

Yemimah: I use my older children to teach the younger. Having training in their own house means that it is all part of the same life — what they do in training affects, and is part of, their life. So I'm not dealing with things independently of the parents.

If our Father is speaking to us to not go the way of the gentiles and our minds are not set on the Spirit, in the future we'd be known by our little schoolhouses all over New England. Would it be possible for our children not to have to leave their houses to be educated? We could look at this in a negative way — the children will all be in the house all day, with their parents all the time, but it should be that children would delight in being with their parents.

Yakin: My feeling has not changed about feeling that children being with their peers a lot is not a healthy thing. If they bond with their parents in a good way then bonding with their peers will come naturally. It comes down more and more that the fact that parents need to come into the mind of child training.

Korem: Read from the Statement of the Educational Program of the Community in Island Pond...

A constitution the elders in every clan and tribe must uphold.

Korem: ...It is our God-given right as parents to train their children to follow us. We said in it that we support the parents in so training their children.

Yemimah: We have seen that when children are around each other so much they tend to go to one another for advice, rather than going to adults.

That is true, but it also comes from our lacks in being the stem.

Well, is it possible to teach our children in our households, eventually having cottage industries that they grow up into, etc.?

Yakin: The households would need to be pretty much self-contained, not going in so many directions.

Yonah: It would solve the problems of transportation and communication.

Reya: It will be possible to cluster houses when they are nearby each other.

We then read from a letter of Ruth Aminah (Korem's wife) to the elders in Island Pond:

For awhile I have been talking to my husband about this and asked different people, but I am not clear about what our Father's heart is. I have wondered about little babies and real young children going to training. I see good things about training — the children interact socially and they learn how to do things. I just wonder if it doesn't take the brooding instinct away from a mother.

My sister had a baby this past year and she has someone else watch the baby for part of the day so she can work. She has even started feeding him at six months (baby food) so he can stay with someone else. She is an engineer. When she told me she was going to do that, it bothered me. In the world many people get shots so they don't have pain during childbirth, so it takes away the bonding of the mother and child because there is no suffering to bring that child forth. The same is true after the child is born.

Many mothers want to work; they aren't content to be a mother. They don't see the preciousness of it. They leave their baby or child at a day care center. There are many day care centers in the world today. The mother doesn't go through the suffering to raise that child. She leaves it with someone else so she can do what she wants to. The mother and child don't bond because the child isn't her priority and later the mother wonders why it is so hard to reach her child.

I know the body is not the same at all as the world. We are a family. We are one. We have the same standard and we love all the children. I can't raise my children alone, I need my brothers and sisters. But there is a special bonding that takes place between a mother and her child during the foundational years that is different than later on. During this time the mother goes through much suffering to start that child in the right direction. Many mothers in the world avoid this and there is much hardship later because the child did not have tight hands (reins) when it was little. The child winds up being out of their control.

I don't want to get too busy and not take responsibility for the one I have been entrusted with. It is really easy for me to get busy in the body, but I don't want it to be things that look good, but I want to do our Father's will.

That is why I need help. When my daughter Ruth died, I knew I had touched hearts with her; she was a priority to me. I enjoyed being with her and taking care of her. After she died it was really hard for me.

One thing that really helped me during this time was that Yoneq taught a women's teaching. After the teaching he told me that before our children comes our husband. I was so affected by the teaching and also what he shared with me. For the first time I knew why I was created. I was created for Korem so that he could be complete. In completing him, I would help to bring about YHWH's purpose. I got down on my knees and cried out in a loud voice, bawling like a baby, asking our Father to forgive me for not being everything Korem needs and to change me and help me. I saw how many times I would do many "good things" in the body, but how it didn't please YHWH. It didn't please Him because I wasn't obedient; I wasn't being what my husband needed. It was easier to wear myself out doing things that looked good and even helped people, but I was leaving my husband and his needs behind. I wasn't making him Lord, like Sarah — treating him like I would want to treat our Master, Yahshua. So everything I did for others was useless. Because I was created for him and if I gave myself to Korem and his will I would fulfill everything that our Father desired. If I fulfilled my purpose, then His purpose would come about.

Part of being his wife is being a mother to his children. There is something in me that desires to be with my children and pour myself into them. I like children. I like for them to be with others, also. It builds them up to know other people enjoy them. They need what other people have. I just wondered if it is a fallen instinct in me to want to be with them, or if it is brooding. I want to potty train them, change their diapers, make them clothes — be their mother. One mother who is in training until noon is torn because she says her 2-year-old is with someone else for a good part of the time. The other people potty train him. She only goes until 12:00 each day, but she has to plan some, also.

Many times I have thought about younger training because the youngest years are when they need the tightest hands. There is a special bonding that takes place during these years that is different than later on. A foundation is being laid. To me, this is a time when I want to spend much time being diligent to lay that

foundation. Sometimes it is hard because there are so many pressures around me, but I know the grace is here for me. Many mothers have suffered when their children were younger because they wanted to be with them, but there were many demands on their lives. They wanted to be home to receive their children, but were involved in an industry, etc.

When I was single and had first come to the body, something really stood out to me. Ha-Emeq was taking care of Hephzibah Newsong. She was being a mother to her. I worked in the store back then, and when I came home, I would take care of the children in the house (Maples) so their parents could work in the store, cook, etc. Back then we didn't have as many children as we do now, and we will have more children as time goes on. But Hephzibah was one of the little ones I had. I was supposed to lay her down for a nap, but Ha-Emeq would get her and lay her down instead. She wanted Hephzibah to be with her. She would lay her down, and then she would be there when she got up from her nap. I would watch the two of them going down the long flight of stairs with dust rags, cleaning the banister and singing Hosanna together. They were happy. I wanted so much if I got married to be a mother like Ha-Emeq. Something precious was being put into Hephzibah. Ha-Emeq wasn't too busy. She didn't put her aside so she could do what she needed to, but involved her. Her heart was toward Hephzibah. It takes time — you have to slow down a little.

In Titus 2:3-4 it talks about women. One thing it says is that they would be taught to love their husbands, children, and be workers at home. When I have been in some moves meetings one thing we have talked about is how there is one woman or no woman at home, and how it isn't a good situation. Many times we have a hard time finding younger training teachers. I want our houses to be homes and not just places where we live and eat. I believe the women have an important part in this. I know it builds up the men when it is this way.

Right now there are many things coming out of my baby. He is learning what lay down means. He has needs. I want to be diligent to put him on a good foundation. I don't want to be too busy. It takes time. I don't get a lot of things done that I would like to be done. It is a suffering, but I know it will be worth it.

Our children grow so fast. I want to train them in the little things while they are young. To me it is part of being their mother. Is it a fallen motherly instinct or is it brooding? I need others to be with my children, also. I see there needs to be a balance. When I was in younger training, many people said I was a good teacher. What was in my heart beyond anything else was to communicate worth and life to the children. I wanted them to know I enjoyed them.

After training though many days I would be in Edah's room crying because of how it was at home and how my children were suffering. There was no one to watch them. I would try and plan with them, but I couldn't give them the attention they needed. I wanted to be their mother. Many times I couldn't be what my husband needed, but looked to him for help so I could be a teacher. I didn't want to have a career. I just want to be faithful with what our Father has entrusted me with and do it with all my heart. I am thankful to be Korem's wife and have four children. I don't want to leave my husband and children behind. I want to learn to be a wife and mother and I want to help others. I want this seed to help to bring about an end to the injustice. I want to see our Father's will come about. This seed, our children, are the most precious thing we have.

When I lived in the world many of my friends came over and now still visit my parents. They came because their moms worked and weren't home, but my mom was home. Do the little children go to training because their moms need to get things done or is it a need in the child? I know we have tried to have younger training at home, but this is not what I am talking about. I was wondering about little children being at home by their mothers' side, with her attention towards them, involved in what she is doing.

This last cook's meeting, the women were talking about baby training and what it is like there. They said many of the babies cry or scream, some for most of the time they are there. The teachers come home crying because they don't know what to do. When Shuah was in there I asked her how it was going and she said she didn't feel like she met all the babies' needs, that she just did the best she could. Several mothers I have talked to want to be with their baby while it is young. I don't want to miss it.

Is this wrong thinking? I want others to help with him also. But I want to be his mother. I know I took time with Ruth. I would have been devastated if she had died and I hadn't seen those years a precious. If I hadn't been with her. There was much in my heart for her. I loved her. I don't want any mother to have to regret that her

heart wasn't turned towards her child. A mother suffers in childbirth to bring that child forth and she suffers to bring that child up in the way it should go.

It says in Proverbs 15:20 that a foolish person brings shame to his mother. Someone told me once that part of the shame will be on that day when the mother stands before YHWH and her child will bring her shame because she was not faithful to train him. She will have to give account. Because raising children is serious, they have a soul. We can help direct that soul to where it will be eternally. I want to be faithful. Our Father needs this seed. He needs us.

I hardly know how to be a mother, a wife. But I want to be with all my heart. I want to support my husband. I want to represent him and take time to deal with our children and love them. I want them to bring my husband honor and joy. I want that their lives would glorify our Father. Korem has wished more men were involved in the training of our children (older training). I would like to talk to someone if they can work it in sometime. I have been praying about this.

I want help to know what it is in Titus 2:3-4. I want to love my husband, children, and be busy at home. I want our Father to be pleased with me. I want to do His will. I want to have poured my life out in what He created me for. I want to be with Him. I want His purpose to come about. When I go through suffering, this is what keeps me and makes me endure. I don't want to deny Him. He has waited so long. I know I can't endure without Him and knowing His heart.

I love all of you,

Ruth Aminah

After this very moving letter, Yoneq said, "Maybe the early church reached this point and faced this dilemma and restructured itself too far."

Hakam: I think in the early days the reason we wanted to send our children off to baby training was to check the motherly instinct and protectiveness of some parents.

There is a fallen motherly instinct.

Ha-Emeq: It is so nice to see a hen with the brooding instinct. They are totally attentive to their chicks. We're restoring it to our hens in Sus through the ones that do have it. Most of the mothers in the community don't have it. I'm objective and I've watched even the women who were excellent with children as single people lose it when they have their own. A dulling process goes on. The brooding instinct has really been taken away from us. That's why it's good that we help each other so we can see where we're blind.

Savav: I don't want to slow down the trend we're on, but I want to make sure that if these babies are with their mothers all the time that we realize that all the wrong qualities parents have are going to go right into the children. There must be sharp people there helping them with these problems: whiney, whiney, clingy children. The shepherds will have to be there in the household to help with these problems. The mothers being at home all the time... is that what we're saying? The mothers not doing anything else?

Deshe: Does that conflict with Proverbs 31? Or is it only the 50-year-old women who will do those things?

Hakam: Being in the house is what makes it possible to do what the word says (Titus 2:4-5; Gen 18:19). It seems that home education is more like Gen 18:19.

At this point our idea of the brooding instinct is to help the chick peck its way out of the egg or to cut the butterfly free from its cocoon. That would kill the chick and the butterfly, for they must suffer in order to be set free. They must suffer to be strengthened to live in the world. Where else could they go to find that resistance? (Which by overcoming it develops the determination they will need to make it.)

Racham: I thought Ha-Emeq was going to say something different when she was talking how some women are objective until they get their own children (and then someone has to tell them their child is on the refrigerator). I was thinking that a lot of women that have become mothers have been functioning in full time jobs as well as being mothers.

Olah: Something Hakam said about doing what was in the word spoke to me. I feel pulled when I see the need to teach the younger women in our household but instead I have to go off to teach my 8 children and try to communicate with their parents.

Yakin: We're still in the adjustment period. We don't have yet the situation that the early church did in regards

to Titus, but that's where we're going. Even though women will have their young babies they will still be able to cook, do laundry and function around the house. (There was widespread agreement at this point.) If we are still building the foundation, then it is going to be a big house. We used to pray for a million dollars for all our problems to be solved. We were looking for someone to come and clip us free from the cocoon so we wouldn't have to struggle. If we had a million dollars in Burlington we would be free but we would die. Perhaps what our Father is trying to do is get us to pray.

Deshe: We are going to go by the word. Our older women should be teaching the younger... there should be no deviation from that.

Yemimah: We have to know where we are going. Then, although each clan will have its own flavor we will go the way our Father is directing us. I want to hear the direction our Father is leading us so we won't become a public school.

It is going to take a struggle to form, to take on the mind of Messiah. That is why all kinds of parents come in. Our problems were planned from the foundation of the earth. It is good we didn't have a manual from the beginning to tell us what to do.

Hakam: Heb 11:8,10 — Abraham was looking for a city with foundations. Not a plan or a way, but foundations to build upon. That's what we're doing. That's why we gave up our life from the very beginning.

If we can keep that foundation together we will build the house. When the temple is finished, Malachi says He will return quickly (Mal 3:11). One thing we have said so far is **don't go home and call off baby training**.

Reya: We are being strengthened to not try to get out of our circumstances. We also need to be more closely aligned with His word.

We don't start out being totally obedient to the word, but we come into it. We love Him and then we come into obedience. Our 12-year-olds obey much better than our 3-year-olds. They've learned obedience.

Korem: We don't want our children to become independent from their parents. Nothing created that independence in me more than going off to school. This has happened in our children.

Qatan: Decentralizing things into households will produce better fruit in our children.

Hakam: The families have to be restored. Jer 31:1 — Our communities shall be communities of families. The center of the kingdom coming on earth is the household. The first thing we heard about being a community of households was that the heads and tails had to be restored — the elders and the prophets.

Ariane: The pressure we get from our children that they need to be with their peers is not right. They need to be with their parents more. I don't want to give in to the pressure they put on me. I want to go ahead and do what I know they need.

Qatan: The question is, what do we want our children bonding with? Flesh with flesh or instead train them so they can bond spirit with spirit? The thing our children are looking for with their parents is a sense of unity. They haven't gotten that at home because the households are so scattered.

Ha-Emeq: It doesn't help in the school system to leave the children at home until they are 4 or 5 because whatever bonding they've formed is broken by sending them off to school.

Havah: There are no answers in the natural. Malachi 4:6. Abraham knew.

Racham: The school system has gone in one direction but instead of going in the opposite direction we have been going parallel.

Do you know what it will take to go in the opposite direction? It will take the opposite of going on in our own strength.

Qatan: Ask any salmon what it takes to go upstream.

Yonah: In the one room schoolhouse the older helping the younger children is how it should be. This would train children to become parents and learn to teach their own children. We haven't been able to do it because we went to graded schools, totally cut off from younger children. The evil one wanted the school system to come about to totally separate the child from their parents. We must help those parents with deficiencies in our everyday life.

Takif: What I am hearing is that we need to pray for the parents. They are our hope, not the school system.

Before we ate lunch Yoneq asked if someone could ask our Father to bless our food, because food is sanctified

by the word and prayer. In Boston our Sabbath celebration is started by the word and prayer and someone prays that He will bless the food. Then, later when we bring in the food, we know it is blessed. Food isn't blessed by just saying it is blessed, but we must pray that it would be blessed.

Near the start of the teaching, Yoneq talked about the Master's Table: The breaking of bread is led by the prophets, by the inspired elders and teachers and evangelists. One topic of conversation runs on until there is nothing more to say about it. Then someone starts a new topic. It is not a night of isolated, independent, disconnected thank offerings punctuated by lulls where people overcome in the flesh to speak.