

## Passing on Vision

It's so exciting what's about to take place in 1999. There's a people being gathered! It's just really important that we're here today. I'm so happy to see the face of Tamiyadah, a prize from the tribe of Gad. Now she lives back here in Yehudah again, way at the western edges of New York. We can't take one another for granted. She is a woman worthy of honor.... She is **woman!** Now, that is important!

We've known for a long time that women are going to be a leading force to lead us back from the fall. We had so much vision about this when our Father first revealed headcovering to us and we saw the place of women in restoration... and then we dove into motherhood and forgot everything except dirty diapers and tight hands. But the less vision and focus we have, the less power we have, and the less we're able to get accomplished. We may say, "I just can't do anymore." But that is probably because there's no vision to do more. Our sights are set so low that you don't realize your potential as a being a human being created in the image of Elohim, but especially as a woman.

Women have twice as much potential as man. They're twice as strong, even though they are the weaker vessel (1Pet 3:7). This is because they have their own potential to be who they were created to be, and then to support the men at the same time so they can be all they should be. That's quite a job. If we don't hold them up then they fail to meet their potential. If we drag them down instead of supporting them, encouraging them, they will never become great and mighty men. We kill their fire. Then we make it twice as hard for them to be the great men they were created to be! They only find themselves being pulled down into the rubble.

We used to talk a lot about this back in Chattanooga in our women's meetings so long ago. At one women's meeting it was said: "Let's pretend you're married to Moses and you're married to Eliyah, etc... Now, go ahead and complain about your husbands." The wives would try to say something bad but they couldn't, "...Well, uh, my husband Moses... is the most the most amazing man..." We were reluctant to tear down these great figures, though they were just as human as our husbands are today. But when he is "your" husband everything changes... your "critical eye" comes out. That's what we were trying to get through. Our husbands will be great men, just as great as our forefathers, as long as we have vision, and support them as we should.

### Teaching the Younger Women

We must have vision for the "reality of head covering." Do we talk about the significance of headcovering a lot? It needs to dawn on us who we are. Do we give the younger women vision about their great purpose?

Are we who we need to be? We need to teach the women in our care, giving them a blood transfusion. The life is in the blood. The zeal you older ones are built upon did not happen mystically. You were taught, given vision, and this carries you through many hardships. But you must pass that on to your women back in your clans so they can be who they are meant to be. Those of us who have been in theedah for a very long time are different because we were taught when we were young. They weren't.

Look at Yacheved, for example. She is very hospitable. Sometimes you look at her and you don't know what keeps her going on and on, showing hospitality. Is that just who she is *naturally*? No! She was taught the mind of our Father. She is a disciple who received Abraham's heart in her "first milk." You can't criticize younger women who stay in their room all the time with their children. They don't know who they are because we haven't told them. They're blank slates since they came in. Now we hear that they want to stay in their rooms. Can we blame them?

Our children have learned a lot just by osmosis. Though they have not often been directly taught, just being around it all their lives has taught them what is right. So now, they know more than anyone. Though they may not have the maturity to properly judge their critical insights, they are usually right in what they see. But the others who have come to theedah in the last several years are different. We've delivered their babies and told them to keep tight hands on them. But we didn't pass on any vision to them. They need to be taught who they are, so they can strive to reach their potential as women. They do not realize that our national flag "a woman clothed with the sun and the moon under her feet" is **them. It is not just a coincidence that that is a woman on the flag.**

The people of the nucleus know so much. They are capable of running everything. The young ones can just sit

back with nothing going in or coming out of them. We have to get our zeal into them. We know it's the job of the older women to teach the younger (1 Tim 5:2; Titus 2:3), teaching what is good.

Why haven't we been teaching? It is because we think we are not leaders. We are not striving to be "teachers." There is not that kind of strife in us. "Let someone else do it," you say to yourself. But we're not going to get anywhere if we continue to think like that.

Yoneq told me long ago in the beginning of the edah that I needed to have a women's meeting. But I was so shy, self-conscious, naturally a very quiet person. So, what would I say? "You want me to teach? How am I going to teach Prisca and the other 'girls.' Prisca knows as much as I do. I've been saved only one year and she's been saved a half a year and I'm supposed to teach her? What would I say? She was even a Christian before she came to the Community. She's smarter than I am about the Bible. I won't know what to say!"

It made my skin crawl to think of having a "teaching." It was horrifying. "Well good!" I needed to feel that way. That's what our Father is looking for — people who do not feel confident to do anything in their own strength. So we learned that age does not matter! I was 22 years old... Prisca was twenty... But we still have to do it, even if we feel weak.

For sure, all the circumstances stand in the way of doing this. Even if it's not until 10:30 at night when you are able to get together with the women in your household. There has got to be time. Titus 3:14 — write it on your hearts!

### **Exercising/Aerobics = Graceful Women**

*Grace — Attractiveness, charm, especially the aesthetic value shown in suppleness and ease, spontaneity, and tactful harmony; the charm of congruity, harmony, and pliancy in beauty (as distinguished from force); beauty as displayed in free flowing movement, easy and natural contours, and manners; easy and natural elegance – propriety; seemliness, comeliness.*

*Graceful — Full of the grace of God, displaying grace or beauty in form or action; elegant; easy motion, tactful, full of grace....(as defined above).*

We need to make time to have some kind of exercise/aerobic program for our women. We, as women, need exercise. We must stress to the girls and women in our clans the need to be fit.... and there has to be a place to do it. Do not let circumstances stand in your way. Even if your house is small, take the furniture out of your room, if you have to. This is very important. If we do not exercise our bodies will begin to age and become sick. Maybe we don't like aerobics because the men and the women are exercising together. It is embarrassing for the women and makes the men stumble. Maybe you don't have the right clothes, and know it would not be right to dress like that in front of the men. That is normal.

Besides that, women need to be "women" and learn to be **graceful**. Men need to "work out" strenuously, and be "men." But we don't want to teach our girls and our women to be like men. If we teach exercising like men then we will end up having masculine-looking girls, doing lots of push ups and building up their biceps. A standard needs to be set. We want our women to be in shape. That doesn't mean flexing your arm to see a big muscle. In the world women are beginning to do that but not here. Those kinds of masculine exercises make you walk like a man, and act like men. We want to stay in shape but we are going to quit doing the other exercises and start doing new exercises for women.

We need to learn to be graceful, and to have good posture. Proper posture will cause you to look like a different person. Many of our women are slumped over, and do not even realize it. They need you to be their mirror, a loving and caring mirror. Others know they slump but do not know how to change... Ask them, "Why do you stand that way? You will end up having a big hump between your shoulders." Their answer is usually, "It hurts to stand up straight." That is true only because their muscles are out of shape.

The children also have a tendency to slump as they grow taller. They need to be reminded, but they also have to build up their muscles by exercise. We need to come to the point where it feels comfortable to sit straight and uncomfortable to slump. Even if you have to help them with some form of a cloth brace to hold their shoulders back during the day to let them see how it feels to stand correctly.

Do aerobics with them. Help them. If you told them what they look like from the back they would be so ashamed and embarrassed. We must emphasize to our young girls that bad posture sets the structure of their

bodies for the rest of their lives. It's our job to care for our sisters and children. We must increase our scope as women. Get involved! Stop thinking so small. Think: "This is my responsibility!" You can do it. Let's draw together our forces and figure out a way to do this. Make sure women in our community sit straight and take brisk walks, do their exercises. Just say, "I know there's got to be a way."

Deborah, Jehu's wife, wrote a letter to me about this. She sees the problem of trying to exercise together with the men. So we need to change. We need to do whatever it takes to stimulate our women to exercise. The exercises don't necessarily have to give you the "air" part of "aerobics" (which emphasizes hard breathing for 20 minutes) as long as we're taking a brisk walk for at least 20 minutes every day. It must be very brisk. It's good if you can do it alone to be able to pray, but in some places that is not safe. You can get two or three women together to walk, especially those who do not have the will-power to do it alone. Get a watch so we won't meander along. Set a goal that you know is the right distance for the time. Go to the goal, touch it and head back. Twenty minutes a day... We'll do it 6 days a week. Just not on the Shabbat. Jumping rope is also good. If we don't do it we're going to get all these sick women. It doesn't help to get a lot of vitamins and calcium if we don't exercise. "Experts" say that this kind of walking must be done AT LEAST three times a week. So if we set our sights on six days, and circumstances cause us to miss one or two a week, it is fine. We just need to start. If the younger women don't see you doing it they won't do it. You've got to set the pace for your community as the women.

### **Meetings**

I want to discuss burdens. I get all these messages with "quick questions" about the standards of our way of life. We need to know the standards, and thus have confidence to go forward. We need to get together and communicate with one another and understand what the anointing teaches us.

When Chanowk went to Leviy he said right away to the brothers there, "We have got to have regular workers meetings every month and regular industry meetings, regional meetings, married couples meetings, child training meetings etc. If we do not do this we are not even a tribe!" He knows exactly what is needed to make the best tribe. (Hitler saw the potential in Germans. They can be a great tribe because they have strong will power, just as long as they remain connected.) We need to get together here in Yehudah or we won't go forward as the examples for them. We must have regular cooks' meetings and come with notebooks full of concerns. Come with passion. Stand on the table and say, "WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING!" and we are going to respond! We can't just sit back and think, "Well, I wonder what Huldah's going to say at the meeting this week?" We must come with passion. N'su was on fire about first aid. He didn't stop until he was heard. Now we are going to do something about first aid training. We just needed for someone to be passionate about it.

### **Love Conquers**

We go on and on and we don't take hold of the grace that's there for us. We meant to put the days on the calendar slip by, and nothing changes. We can't do it unless we turn to our Master Yahshua. We have to think, "I'm an older woman and I'm going to do something about this situation." We need to be drawn out. We need to look at who we have in our Community. We must be a tight team. We must look around at the condition of the women in our clan and say, "I need a relationship with each one of these women." If someone is distant and cold say, "I'm going to conquer that woman." You can do it. Take **your banner** with you. We have to go and knock on her door. "What's going on! Are you doing OK? You seem distant? Our Master Yahshua loves you and so do I!" We need to have relationships with every woman! If not, and you sense some sort of "aloofness," say, "I'm going to conquer this person with love. I have the banner. I'm going to get to the top of the mountain and plant it!" You go to your sisters and talk to them. Find some place where you can talk, even if it is outside in the snow! Do not let anything hinder your love. Just go and say, "What's going on? Can I help? I know you need help." We can't move forward without this kind of love.

People are afraid of one another. Why? Just look at that face across the room. Remember that someone lives behind those eyeballs! We can't let ourselves be held back any more from letting love conquer... Worthlessness is such a big enemy! We need to start seeing this enemy and recognizing it. We must remember that we are all on the same team. We are our Master Yahshua's team. There can't be unspoken strife or selfish ambition, all

those yucky things that we're still shedding because of our fallen condition.

If you see the deadly effect on the Body it will make you upset enough to do something about it. The tribe of Yehudah is not prospering right now. The reason is because there's not anybody to be leaders. It's strange because we still have the stem here (who will eventually go to Benjamin). We have older people who could be leading and are not. Then we have the younger people who do not yet have a good foundation to lead, so they are not leading either. It's a big problem. You have to be zealous for your tribe.

We in this room have the potential to be something great. Abigail, you're not going to just be a great imma but a great woman. Do you believe that? We are called to be a great nation of great women. We must be zealous and conquer with love.

### **This Wonderful Life**

**Elishiva of Israel always talks about "this wonderful life that we live." She's always talked that way since the scales have come off her eyes. She can see it. Guests can see it too, a wonderful life. But IS it really a wonderful life? Can you say today that the life in your community is a wonderful life? Don't give a Christian answer. Tell me how your abundant life there is wonderful. Is it real? We want to establish this today.**

But we have a deep appreciation of how we got to where we are in history today. As I said, our horizons must be broadened. We are a special people planted in history at just the proper time. We must see our importance in the history of this planet. To do this we must see where we have come from. What has history taught us and where is it bringing us to? If we see this, it will give us vision to go forward. It will get our eyes off the "soy bean spread" for lunch and see our potential. Thus, we can make "this wonderful life," all that it is meant to be.

### **A Study in History**

We're going to write a book about the Three Eternal Destinies soon, so I've been reading a lot about history. History is amazing. If we do not learn the lesson from history we will be doomed to fall into the same mistakes.

We need to know the history of this world, especially in light of our conviction about being the "Stone Kingdom." We all get into situations where we have to talk to people about the **statue**. People look up at the big statue and ask, "Is that your guru?" "No, that statue is not us. That's you," you reply. Then you have to rely on whatever you have memorized as an answer about the golden head, etc., and the meaning of each part of the statue, relating it to us as a people... and history.

"Uh, uh..." you answer as people question you.... Can you explain the history of the statue? Do you understand it? We have to switch from the law to the spirit, having true understanding about history and the significance of that dream, then you can answer all their questions with revelation.

We have to be able to respond, "I'm so glad you asked me that." Then you tell them the whole story from Abraham. They will respond, "Wow! That is so interesting!" It comes to life because we know what the things that happened in the past means in our life today. We need to learn the "story of history." The more you learn about it, the more excited you get. This is a brief overview:

There was a dark time on the earth. Then our Father saw a little spot of light: Abraham. Our Father saw that man and said, "That is what I want. I want a people to come from him. Look at him! Look at the way he commands his household. He's so hospitable. See how he bowed down before those angels. I'm going to make him the father of a nation! A nation of twelve tribes." So that's where the twelve tribes came from. "Why twelve?" they ask. Jacob had twelve sons. They all are going to be just like their father in all his qualities. It seemed to be a happy story, but sadly, they became selfish and inhospitable.

They were given commandments by their father but they didn't keep those commandments. They were not faithful to represent the character of Abraham. So, a great and mighty national government was raised up, an empire... the first empire. That great government was used by the God of Abraham to bring discipline to his wayward sons... his sons families, the twelve tribes. They were taken into captivity by that strong empire...it was the head of gold. It was the Babylonian Empire.

From that point on most of Abraham's children were spread out, no longer living in that good land Abraham was given. From their place of captivity they began to migrate, taking the heart and personality of Abraham

(though now tarnished) to new lands. History shows that some of those captives have been shown to have migrated around 600 AD up north and then back over to the west, into present-day Europe, moving particularly into northern Spain and England.

Those migrating people came around the Mediterranean Sea, some heading north across the English Channel, and some to live in Spain. Some of those in northern Spain may still be there — we call them *Basques*. The Basque people look different. They speak a very funny language. No one now can really say exactly where they came from but they somehow stayed together.

Some then sailed from northern Spain and landed in Ireland. They began a civilization there. They have a similar heritage and language to the Basque people. They are called Celtic. There are lots of x's, sh's, and z's in their language. It is totally different from the Latin-based languages like French and Spanish.

The Celtic people have a lot of folklore about where they came from. There are lots of ancient fables that have been passed down through the generations, but no clear history remains. They know that somehow they came from Noah. There were not enough writings preserved to keep track of exactly how their migration all happened.

But the bits and pieces we have indicate that they came from a very determined people, a deeper civilization. Although those "Celtics" were rough and a little wild, they were quite special. The people called "Celtic" lived in England and in Ireland, but they were not exactly the same because they arrived from different migrations. Their difficult migration had caused them to lose a lot of their good heritage... the likeness of Abraham.

The Celts were wild, but not as wild as barbarians. Do you know who the Barbarians were? They lived in the far north like Germany, Norway, Sweden... The barbarians were uncivilized tribes. Where they ultimately originated from has been lost. But they were very uncivilized by this time. They must have been sons of Shem long before the time of Abraham. They must have migrated north and lost their "roots" very early in history. They had dreadlocks. They are said to have looked a bit like wild animals. They lived in scattered tribes without any unified government...

The Celtic people living on the Irish island were rough and hardy, with many strange rituals. It was a volatile culture that remained pretty much isolated.

Then you had the Roman Empire starting up after the Babylonian, the Mede/Persian, and the Greek had fallen. This was all before the time of our Master.

Do we understand who Augustine was? We can't be satisfied to say, "Ask Yonah." It's so interesting. I want to study this more. Do we know who Charlemagne was? We don't because it's not relevant to us. We got an A in history and forgot it all. History is relevant to us and we have to be people who know it. Anyone who hasn't read a freepaper can't hand out one paper. We have to know the whole thing. Our papers aren't simple. We can't just know cooking and diapers. If we don't get a taste for this our nation won't be a wise and understanding nation. We have to pass this on. The idea of *Bar Mitzvah* is to know the story from Adam to Yahshua.

So, you had Rome controlling, first the mid-east, and spreading into Africa and most of the southern part of Europe, at about the time our Master came to earth. Mark Anthony and Cleopatra lived about this time. You have heard of them... they were real people. And it is actually important that you know about them in order to understand why the Roman Empire fell. At the beginning of the Roman Empire there were two leaders who ruled together. They thought that it would be important to have two, so there would not be one leader calling all the shots. But Anthony, who was one of those two leaders, fell in love with Cleopatra from Africa, so he didn't devote himself to leading. He didn't do his part. So Augustus took over both parts. He was the first Roman emperor. So they went to one leader in the Roman Empire. The whole government became his.

In the days of the Emperor they decided to take a census. It really happened. You know about that census... they wanted to count Miriam and Yoceph in Israel. Remember?

The whole Roman government besides the Emperor himself lost its importance. They still had senates and governors but their decisions carried little weight. The Emperor did everything. It was a very strong force on this earth — it was "iron."

But as time passed the strong empire wasn't so strong anymore. We want to see why it fell apart. In the 300's Constantine came along.

The people that history calls “Christians” after the time of our Master lived in community and were spread out through many parts of the Roman empire. Israel was part of the Roman Empire. Our Master was born into the Roman Empire. The communities spread out under the cover of the big Roman Empire and were full of life and harshly persecuted. They didn’t fall away overnight. The son of Yohannan, the beloved disciple, and Mary Magdalene and her friends didn’t fall away. They were living in communities, and keeping His commandments. They were being killed and tortured by the Roman Government. The communities were united in spirit, but were not able to communicate to one another like we do. People knew little about what was going on from place to place. There were no newspapers or radio broadcasts.

Then all of a sudden, in around 300 AD, invitations were sent out to come to a meeting with the Emperor himself. The persecution had died down a little bit before that. So, leaders from the communities came from all over the empire, from as far away as Africa. There were rumors that “the Christian religion” had been legitimized, authorized by the Emperor Constantine. Some were afraid and doubted that this could really be true. They began to arrive at the big hall. Many had been maimed from persecution, eyes out, arms cut off. They walked down the great hallways past the guards who would formerly have mocked them and captured them. To the surprise of these disciples they were greeted personally by the emperor with, “Welcome. This is my religion now. Eat and drink. We’re going to bring order within our religion. We’re not going to be scattered any more.” The disciples were asking each other, “Is this really true? Or is it a trick? No more persecution! Is this great or is it some sort of defilement for us? Well, it’s an opportunity for evangelism.” They went back and forth, doubting and rejoicing.

So Christianity became a protected religion. Shortly after this a bright star appears. It was Augustine! You have heard of him. Well, became a Christian after a lot of searching. Christianity was still quite scattered and there was not much unified authority. The “Bishop” (the name that the head of the community was called in those days of Rome began to be considered to have more authority than all the other leaders of the scattered communities. He lived right there in the city with Constantine so was given a lot of authority. That is when they started calling him “pope,” like the father of all the other leaders. But he was still not a really strong, unifying leader. Finally, a voice arose... someone to rally around — Augustine. But now, looking back on his life, psychologists analyze his behavior as quite phsyctic.

Augustine became the leading voice in the church. There was something wrong. He was so strong in his opinions about things. Others didn’t agree with him. When questions arose from men in the other communities about some of the things he was teaching, he would violently argue with them. He decided to kill them if they continued to oppose his “truth.” He called it *heresy*. Kill the people. That was the end really. Little groups sprang up and their teaching was labeled as heresy. He was the first who proposed killing someone who did not agree with his doctrine. This pattern remained through Christian history and still is practiced today in some countries. The anti-cult people have the same spirit today.

Augustine set the stage for the thinking pattern which said that sexual union is evil, even though it is within the bonds of marriage. He passed on the mind that the fall of man came through semen. The only reason for sex is propagation, but a really holy person would never do it. So most poor sinners have to get married because they were burning with lust, but the really righteous ones would stay in convents as “nuns” or in monasteries as “monks.” Have you ever wondered where nuns came from and monasteries? So, this took the really holy people out of every day life and separated them from the communities. The poor sinners still went to church, but had to be married, so they were not really holy. All this started with Augustine in 400.

The Roman Empire had spread to Spain, and up north to the Rhine River. It did not go farther because of the Barbarians. Rome didn’t even bother to go there. They just built a wall to keep them out. (Like Mexicans hanging on the fence, waiting to jump over, called wetbacks, who swim the river into America, so the savage, third-world barbarians, were kept out of the Roman Empire.) The Barbarian tribes were looking over the river, knowing the giant, vigorous Roman army was there. They knew there were lots of good things over there that they wanted, but they were afraid to try to come in.

The Roman civilization was growing. The Romans conquered England where the Celts were living in the late 300s. They never got to Ireland. The Roman army usually had some Christians with them to make converts.

They converted many people in England to the religion of the Roman Empire, but they really knew little about the religion. They had barely been able to set up churches when trouble came to the Roman Empire.

The huge empire and the government started relaxing (like America) because everything was so easy. They got selfish. They didn't want to join the army anymore. So the army wound up not having the best people anymore (like President Clinton was a draft dodger). The army got weaker. The people would either send money or slaves to the army rather than go themselves. The government began to say, "Our army's going down. What are we going to do? Well the Barbarians were sneaking over the wall. If we pay them a little bit, they will make a good army." They were dressed and shaven but they were not high class or educated like the Romans had been. They were like the American army is today. No one wants to join anymore except people who like video games and driving tanks. They aren't patriotic anymore. Thus the army of the great Roman Empire was no longer able to really stand.

Then there was such an amazing story....

There was a very cold winter, very cold. It got colder than it ever had gotten, until the Rhine froze solid (in South Germany). The Barbarians realized they could walk across the river. They talked about it, among the tribal gangs. The tribes were not united, but like sea gulls all find out about the fish on the shore somehow it dawned on all those ragged tribes that they could walk across the river. And all of a sudden the Barbarians were upon them. The Roman guards could not stand against this wild horde. The small band of Roman soldiers did not know what hit them. It was too late. They were not armed with fancy weapons, they just hit, beat, pulled off arms, etc. This wild group was able to knock down the entire Roman Empire. They flooded the countryside, raiding, capturing, leaving nothing behind, until they had finally knocked on the gates of Rome. The Roman emperor said, "Go see what they want!" The barbarians at the gate said, "We want everything; all you can keep is your lives." They couldn't do anything. The barbarians burned everything. They burned libraries. They took over the best of the farms, and moved in next door to the Roman families. The whole society was destroyed. The only thing that stood through the destruction were the churches. Then they were the only thing you could count on. The Bishop became the only source of secure authority. Rome looked to the Church leaders for security. There was a sweeping fear of the Barbarians. They were everywhere and they would steal your children if you weren't looking.

#### **Then Barbarian Tribes Met the Celts**

**The Barbarians were called by different tribal names like Angles, Saxons, and Jutes. They eventually crossed the English Channel. The Romans had already withdrawn from England to try to help defend the main part of the empire. The English island was easy prey for the barbarian hordes. Most of us come from here. We call ourselves Anglo-Saxons. But really we don't know if we're really Celts or Barbarians. For the barbarians met a very different society. The Celts were not like regular Romans that they had met thus far. They pushed the stubborn Celts west as they invaded from the east. Eventually the western part of the island was purely "Celt" – in Wales, and in Devon and Cornwall (where our community is now)**

**The Celts were "Christian" in one sense of the word — they had been touched, but not indoctrinated by their invaders. They had heard about our Master and the gospel. They had meetings together, but they had little teaching from the main churches in Rome. The Celts were a different brand of people with a different, very distinct language. Devon, Cornwall, and Wales were the last stronghold of the Celtic people who had migrated there so long ago.**

#### **Saint Patrick**

**Ireland had a bit different brand of Celts, and their language was also a bit different. They got into leprechauns, druids, fairies. They let in all kinds of strange traditions. At the same time they knew something of their heritage, which had been preserved in stories.**

**Just before the time when the English Celts were conquered by the barbarian tribes, the Irish people were sending out raiders who liked to steal young children from the English and take them for slaves. They would come to the coast of England and steal them. (This was about the same time as Augustine, but the people here knew nothing of him or of the trouble with the Roman Empire.) The Irish Celtic people stole**

a 15 year-old boy. His name was Patrick. They made him a slave on a farm in Ireland. He fed the pigs there on the hillside. This boy had heard the Christian message. His grandfather had been a Celtic priest in England. The boy knew about the faith, but he didn't believe it.

Now, in this different land, he found himself praying. For seven years he lived there until one day something spoke to him; he thought it was the voice of God. "Your ship is waiting. Your time of bondage is over." He took off walking. When he came over the hill he saw a ship. He went to the ship captain. The boat was off to sell bloodhounds on the continent. They were just getting ready to take off. "Can I go with you? I'll work!" said the young man. The captain said, "I know who you are. You are a slave. Get out of here before I call someone on you." He turned and walked on, wondering why this had happened because he was sure that God had opened the way for him. He was very sad. Then some sailors on the ship called to him. "Come, we'll make a way for you." They snuck him onto the boat.

He never would have called himself Saint Patrick. There were no such things as "saints." He was on his way, going with the sailors. They arrived at the coast. They didn't realize that the Barbarians had taken over this area. They landed and looked around. Everything had been destroyed. All the food had been taken from the land. The place where they landed was later called Brittany, France. They were all very surprised to see the civilization was gone. The men and Patrick all began walking with their dogs, hoping to find some food and someone to buy their dogs. They got very hungry. Their dogs became hungry. The sailors began to get angry at Patrick. "Here you've been talking about our God and how he delivered you. Now He has brought us here to starve," they said. Patrick said, "I know that if we turn to Him on our knees and pray to him, he'll help us because he helped me." While they were praying they heard the sound of their answer. A herd of *pigs* was coming. They all looked up and said, "Your God is real. He sent us the best food – pigs." Because of this they put Patrick on another boat and sent him back to his family in England.

This was during the time when the Barbarians were getting stronger and stronger on the continent. When he came home his family exalted him. "You need to become a priest now if you have become religious. You need to study." So, Patrick went to school but didn't fit in. "I can't do it. I don't fit in. I feel a longing to go back to Ireland and tell the people who are there about God." This was a very unusual concept because evangelism had only been within the Roman Empire to this point, and to just go into a land of savages was unheard of.

Patrick was considered the first missionary person who went outside the Roman Empire to tell people about God. He had a burden to go back. He took off walking. He at least wanted to learn the Bible before he went so he would know what to say. He stopped on the coast at a learning monastery, and learned the Bible. Then, when he was finished they said, "Okay, now study this." "No," he answered, I'm going." "You can't go. Where are you going?" They had no concept. All they had was like a Christian concept of someone going to Africa.

The Celtic unrefined Irish hadn't gone through what those in the countries that the Roman Empire had conquered. They were very open to the words of Patrick. They thought Patrick was so nice. He won the whole island of Ireland, not to Christianity as we know it, but to the simple faith of unreligious gospel truth. The message Patrick was preaching was not what the Christian religion had become in the last hundred years. That religion had not had time to effect the Celtic people in England, as the Roman Empire did not really have time to really establish itself before it fell. They still lived in community, living out what they believed. History found that there were small villages established which later got the name "monastery," but they were actually families living together in the beginning. They did not even know who Augustine was, so they were not effected by his false understanding of the relationship of men and their wives.

This is such interesting story. It's a way to talk to Irish people and Catholics — something for them to relate to, their roots. People are really interested in this. "Do you know who Patrick really was?" You could tell people he wasn't able to start a "nation" of holy people. It was not time yet, but he was pecking away with the limited understanding he had.

So, after that the Roman Empire fell apart. The Celts remained strong in Ireland and on the west coast of England, and migrating to the northern coast of France in the area called Brittany (that is where our "Celtic salt" comes from). The Barbarians trampled everything on the continent. Libraries were all destroyed and schools. All



that remained of the former civilization was almost totally destroyed. That marked the beginning of the dark ages.

But things were different in Ireland. They were able to preserve much of the Roman Empire, keeping a lot of the literature and historic writings safely in their libraries. The burning barbarians never made it there. Thus history praises the Irish for preserving civilization during the dark ages. Then Holy Roman Empire rose out of that — Charlemagne, being crowned by that Roman Bishop who was now called the pope. But Charlemagne, a good man coming out of the dark times, did not even know how to read. They called it the “Holy” Roman Empire because really there was no unity except in the “church” headed now by a Pope and the perverse mind of Augustine.

### **Understanding**

**This is the difference between just going on in our daily life without understanding and at least knowing an overview of history. Knowing just a little bit about history could facilitate you talking with others in a way that can convince them from history that we need to change our ways or we will fall the same way they did in the past.**

**We want to do history plays. We’re foolish if we don’t learn from history. We don’t progress. We can learn. How much did we learn about Roger Williams? History says he’s a heretic. At least we have something to say about him. That’s just one point of history.**

**The history of “Celtic Christianity” describes their religion. Catholics claim they were the source of the conversion of Ireland, but it’s not true. There’s no trace of “Rome” in the Patrick-style religion that reigned in Ireland in the beginning. The “Roman brand religion” came over much later.**

**Scotland was evangelized by the Patrick brand of faith in the beginning, as a small band was sent from Ireland to live there. News of these zealots in Ireland and Scotland made Rome jealous. They said, “You can’t grow apart from us.” They sent their Bishop from the strong-functioning Pope. “We’re going to get together now. We’re one church.” They sent a council of representatives. But the Celts didn’t recognize the same spirit. They wanted no part of it. They had grown separately and there were things in them that the Irish and Scots did not like. But because of the power of Rome, they eventually forced the simple believers there to take on the Roman ways to some extent over the next couple hundred years. Eventually the Vikings came and smashed the Celtic society. It was very difficult for them to conquer these hardy people, but finally they cut down all the trees on the island. They stripped the whole island and the landscape has never recovered from that terrible conquest. The Irish people were so versatile, they hid in trees. Without the trees they were easy prey. So finally they were destroyed.**

**But there was a little remnant of what Patrick had formed, mixed with what the Roman Catholics brought into that society. If you study what the Irish are like now you can see traces of that simple faith of Patrick. Even in their music we can see something pure that is not present elsewhere. Perhaps that is from their roots... all the way back to their migration so very long ago.**

**It’s nice to know that this little spark of life was there, like all the trees that used to be there. You know their past. Maybe Zebulun will work between both Islands.**

**They have traditions among the Celtic people that still remain today. They don’t even know where they came from. We know about when our people were taken from Babylon, and that the seed was scattered everywhere. People have lost their sense of their roots.**

**We don’t know where we’re from or care. We’ve lost our heritage of our birth, but we’re disciples with a heritage. Knowing your ancestry was very important with our people. That is why all those verses in the gospels are devoted to the family tree of our Master. It was important to our people that they knew who their father’s father’s father was. Not seeing the value of our roots leads to worthlessness. As Americans we have lost this more than other societies in Europe and other places. Perhaps that is why Yehudah struggles so much with that “worthless spirit.” But that spirit divides us. We need to expose everything that keeps us divided and be people of dignity. This comes from having our banner.**

**People are going to say, “They’re such a wise and discerning people.” We’re going to know things, understand what happened in history. We know more than people in the world. I am not talking about**

knowing a lot of trivia. We will know the prophecy of the word of God... but not just the Bible, our whole heritage that goes with it.

### **Travail of Religious Liberty**

Ireland was destroyed. Rome crept in, the English left, and anyone with freedom left. King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table were Celts who had been squeezed into Devon. (This is where we got the idea for our round table discussions at the way-out house in England.) And the whole religious scene in England grew worse and worse.... The “reformation” came to really bring trouble on the people. Finally people wanted to leave that land and find a new life. Those who came to America for religious reasons came to get away from something. The Puritans came to this area (Boston). They wanted to make the Church of England pure (like it was before). They wanted this purifying was to take place from within that organized church.

**But the Pilgrims were not Puritans; they were different. The Pilgrims wanted to be separate.** They wanted to cut off the fallen church of England and start something new. They settled at Plymouth Rock. They were called *separatists*. Roger Williams was a Puritan when he left England, but after he saw the fruit of that movement in the Boston area, he became a separatist. The Pilgrims had some differences with Roger Williams, perhaps from fear of what would come upon them from the Puritans. The Salem witch trials happened among the Puritans. They used force to change people’s minds... so maybe it was just fear that caused the Pilgrims not to stand with Roger Williams. But Roger Williams never could find what he was looking for. He wanted a people like us. He was a Baptist for three months. They claimed he started the first Baptist church in Providence. But after he was “baptized” he saw that this was also not the truth and left. He did not agree with these different religious groups, but he was very strong that they would be given the right to be what they were. He allowed them to stay in the Providence area and wouldn’t kill them for what they believed. Other people were killing those of different beliefs left and right during those early days in America. There was much religious travail.

Roger Williams was the first person we found that we could quote a lot from. He was a seeker. He saw that it could be done, but he knew that it would come later, not in his times.

### **Zeal in Small Things**

We have to put zeal in people. We’re Americans and really passive. We don’t let our zeal fire us up to do things. We’re the McDonald’s generation. We have to start seeing that certain things are very valuable, worth standing up for. The conscience of man is very important. Augustine’s mind permeated the Christian religion. He said, “No! Man can do nothing right. They are hopelessly lost and not capable of good.” He persecuted people who said people could live by conscience. Roger Williams kept a little of that flame going for religious freedom.

Yoneq wants people who will stand on the table to speak up for what is right. That is true passion. So now we as women must start with the little things here in our life. Destructive things go on and on in the community. We have to have people who will stand in the gate to go forward, not backwards. We need to support people’s burdens in their conscience. We can’t say, “Well, that’s the way it is.” If someone comes to you saying they want to rearrange things we can’t say, “That’s how it has always been.” If someone comes to you saying, “We need to have a sewing room. We said we want to wear our own clothing and we’re not doing it because we just don’t have a sewing room, but I think I can do it, I have this idea.” We can’t say, “No. I don’t think we can do it because of this and this.” That’s not right. It quenches their zeal. It cuts off their conscience. It quenches them.

It hurts people when we say, “We’ve always done it this way.” We’ll start seeing each other as enemies if we don’t let them come with their zeal and make them into great women.

They’ve all got questions. We need to pass on in the Spirit to them or we won’t form their conscience. Don’t say, “Well, just write an e-mail to ha-emeq.” We have to know ourselves first, then pass on the same spirit. Roger Williams said, “Can the sword of steel or the arm of the flesh make men faithful or loyal to God? Does God care for outward loyalty when the inward man is false? There is more danger from the inwardly treacherous than the Jew or (whatever religion) who holds fast to his beliefs. Carnal weapons may bring carnal

repentance, and make men twice the sons of hell.” Who has hurt us more than people like Roger and Joellen? Can someone on the outside who has a different belief than us be our enemy? It is those among us whom we must win. We must know that each other are true. If we do not pass the spirit into people then we’ll make another religion or denomination.

We have to get someone to do something because their conscience gets them to do something, not because “Yoneq or ha-emeq said,” because we’ll never stand on this. It’s not a true conviction. So when Roger and Joellen began only functioning on principle, then it was only a matter of time until they became enemies. Our relationship was not one of the heart, led by the spirit. They had to do things by the law and then they were not happy here.

In other religions people go by their conscience and hang onto what they know is right. It’s rare to meet with men of conscience who will be righteous. In the Kingdom of our Father we’ll all be like that because our conscience is going to be formed and supported here. It takes a lot to form our conscience. It’s very mis-formed now by the evil society we have come out of. And this will be the case more and more as people come in with their conscience mis-formed. It’s getting worse out there. We’ll have people who won’t be trained to know right or wrong. Of course deep in the heart they will really KNOW that something is wrong, but all the values that are taught to them go against that.

We want to engender deep loyalty, not superficial obedience to laws in hypocrisy. We here all have been loyal through many hard things. Those hard times is what caused us to hang onto Him to endure. Loyalty came because in our conscience we knew what was right and could hang onto it. We need to pass on to the same thing to our younger sisters. We need to teach by the Spirit.

### **Our Clothing**

We can either teach from the law or the Spirit. The first conflict came about our clothing when I brought the pattern for pants to Yehudah. Girls want to have a tight panel around the top and drop the waist down. They resisted these baggy pants, and would say it’s crazy to cut the pattern the way you’re supposed to. Naomi asked me what to do. We decided we had to make it clear, so we made a law, “Okay, Naomi has the pattern. Don’t deviate from it.”

When Joellen came over to Sus she had different pants on. I said, “Don’t cut them so narrow. We don’t want them that way.” The law came. So some tenaciously hung onto that law. Others rebelled against it. In the spirit they wanted to obey the law. It was so nice, such good women. But then came the problem – there were those either reacting to the law or totally out of the spirit because we haven’t given them the right spirit. We don’t want to keep them here by the law or make them dress certain ways. But we also don’t want to look funny or weird. We want the world to envy us.

I was in one tribe and I could see that the pattern they were going by was so out of line. The pattern had been passed and passed and passed until it was no longer anything like the original pattern. You think it is, but it isn’t. It was not in proper proportion. They were trying to keep the standard so tightly that even common sense was omitted in using this strange pattern. They didn’t adjust the pattern for height or the crotch length. For some people the crotch was down to their knees. You have to get the pants on a person and see how it looks. We don’t want to look bad, like clown pants. We want to look nice and becoming. We have to help people when they come in, be excited with them, get rid of all their junky clothes. All our young children are watching. They’re looking for the boundary. Watch them, guard them. It’s so important.

Then one day I got some material. I really needed some pants. I couldn’t figure out how to make them. There wasn’t enough material. The only way I could make it was to drop the waist way down. But I was afraid. “What if one of THEM sees it?” I was afraid that they would see my “drop-waist pants” and think I was opening the door to that type of pattern. But I decided that I want them to be led by the Spirit, and it was not an evil spirit that was causing me to want to have a “drop waist” in the pants. It was just practical in this situation. Then I realized that the law that we put down to solve the problem of some women trying the change the patterns was wrong. It is better to deal with the evil spirit in a person rather than trying to make a law to just hold their behavior in check.

So now there is a need for more patterns. Even in some cases when people have unusual figures, not for vanity,

but just to look becoming, we may need slightly different patterns. Try something on the woman. You can tell her, "Stand straight. Hold your stomach in. Oh, that looks terrible. We are going to try another pattern for you." So, okay, we're probably letting the dog off its leash and trying to keep it by our side. If it stays by your side by its own will, you have its heart. You might as well let it go. If it runs off it was never really "yours" anyway. We're poor people. We don't wear fancy necklaces or dangling earrings. When someone falls away and starts wearing earrings, it shows they already had them in their heart even when they lived with us. They may say, "Why don't we want to wear this?" But is it really their heart or are they under the law about it? It's important that it's in our heart not to dress all decorated like a Christmas tree.

That's the sign of the New Covenant, the law in our hearts. We can't put people under the law because we have to see what's in their heart or they'll fall away. They have to get out what's in them. We have to know and deal with the person. We need to get to the personal things. We must live by what is in their hearts. If someone wants to wear worldly pants it shows what is in them. They have no conviction about how a godly woman should be modest. Try to save people when you see that worldliness comes out of them in some unguarded moment. **DON'T TRY TO KEEP THEM UNDER THE LAW OR THEY'LL NEVER SEE IT. THE NEW COVENANT COMMANDS US THAT WE HAVE TO LIVE BY WHAT'S IN OUR HEART.**

What about examples? If someone wears tighter pants you have to deal with the person. We have to have hands on each other's lives. You can say, "You're bringing attention to your figure there. That's not the normal way we want to dress." They'll either say, "I see," or, "I don't care what you say," and they'll fall away. We're not going to go around scrutinizing, pointing the finger. "Where's that inch!?" "I didn't have enough material!" We are free to cut our pants wider but we're also free to tell them they look too bulky. We're free to pass on the Spirit.

### **This Wonderful Life is Green**

We are a people who love nature. We are lovers of the earth. The Psalms proclaim the glory of our Father as seen through nature. But during the days of Augustine, the simple faith was divided... dividing the faith from the daily life in our environment. Religion was here and daily life was over here. Our Father has given us a whole life that is all intertwined together. The way we look at a flower, nature, the full moon, we're one with the full moon; admiring the strength of horses can be a way experiencing our Father. Christians like Jerry Falwell would say to this, "Watch out. That sounds new age. You should not get into nature." They're afraid. But we don't have that sense at all. We're not afraid to say that in moonbeams and sweet honey we can see our Father. We see Him in the firmament. It says that in the Psalms. The Roman Religion split man from nature, and made religion a thing of the head. But we know that daily life and the environment are organically related. We care about the environment and this we are green.... The environment is trees, people, mountains....

### **Hospitality in this Wonderful Life**

So, the question is, "Is this community you live in the most wonderful place and the people you live with the most wonderful people?" There's a graphic example here. Chen arrived last night from Australia after a long flight. He came from the tribe of Asher where they have royal dainties. They make life the most wonderful life there with the most effort. At first when we got the to Asher a couple years ago, it was so nice and comfortable. They had all single people, the perfect house, plants, Nun's gift of landscaping and making things beautiful. It was a royal palace. We said, "We can't live like this. It's not us, not our identity. We're poor." So our Father opened up the door for them to move to Picton, outside the city of Sydney. He gave them Peppercorn Creek Farm. It was a dump (really... they call it a "tip"). They didn't have any money. But they turned Peppercorn Creek Farm back into another palace. It was not because it was in a nice neighborhood that made it so nice. It was a junky farm with cheap houses. They came and made it the most wonderful life with no money. Now they have less money, more children, lots of demands, but they kept the social life at the same level.

Did you read last month's ITN description of how the tribe of Asher was when their brothers came home from a week-long fair? It was amazing. They had flowers and big banners and they were all waiting for them. Can you imagine? Banners! But when our brothers came home from St. Louis after going to the Pope event, you could have had tables set, a banquet with flowers. You could have all been waiting with beds all made special for them. But did you just say, "We're so glad you're home. We need you back on the schedule. It was so hard for

us at home without you. Get back to work.” In Asher they had no money, but they made such a big deal. But they did not let that stop them. They have such a wonderful life.

Here was no banner for Chen, no celebration. There were many reasons. GOOD REASONS. I could see them waving goodbye in Asher — amazing. He came here to serve us! We were not there to welcome him. We didn’t make this the most wonderful life. We don’t want to be that way. We are big and there are many chances for mix-ups in communications. But we have to make more of an effort not to lose our hospitality for members of the household of faith.

*Galatians 6:10 — So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.*

Do special things. Take special effort. Make this the MOST WONDERFUL LIFE. You have to think about things. Fix up someone’s room for them with candles, make it pretty, then run down so no one knows who even did it. We’re too busy. You can’t do that. We can’t forget these things. Remember Abraham’s hospitality. It starts with us. We’re the light of this world. We make this the most wonderful community. Chen left the gates of Asher and passed through all the filth of the world, traveled half way around the world and we were letting him back into the gates of Yehudah, back into our life.

Ruth: But if we would have welcomed him what does that do to a person’s spirit? It communicates worth. In America a worthless spirit devours people. We have to cast it out. We get so involved in problem solving, thinking of people according to their problems. We don’t see them as precious anymore. We must think about each person. What they did to give their life in the waters of baptism. We get busy and treat people that way. We treat them not as well as you would have because you know them and their problems. We speak things destructive about them and to them. We have to bring the level of consciousness up in our women.

In Naphtali they are poor but their hospitality and level of consciousness is high. They are warm and hospitable. It’s because they’ve been taught that you can make something without anything. You can do things without money. Don’t let that stop our wonderful life because of no money. Things aren’t going to fall into place because we live in community. We have to make an effort. Make plans, set a date, be zealous to make this the most wonderful life!

Yacheved: In Gen 18, I counted the action verbs of Abraham. He ran, bowed, hurried, quickly ran. See His zeal, not stopping, hurried, not worried about the schedule. Then, he waited to see what they’d need. We need to be able to spur women on in our communities.

Our life rotates around the morning and evening sacrifices. Our work is only what builds up the kingdom. Our fellowship is weaving us together to make something real. Every power in the universe is trying to destroy us and make us into counterfeit. It’s possible for us to all live in the same house and not live in community. It’s like a house. You can hear each other’s children screaming through the walls. What makes us a community is being able to walk through the door and ask what are you disciplining your child for and help each other, with no threat. Then they’ll say, “Oh, I’m sorry I’m making too much noise.” That’s community. The tendency is for some to isolate themselves and keep walls up in their own circumstances. If we don’t tear down the walls we will be counterfeit. The reality of our life and faith have to be interwoven. Speaking to one another is what makes community. If we’re afraid to talk about it and get our brothers involved then the tension builds up. All that was needed was a knock on the door. We have to have this mind in the Body. Don’t talk to two or three other people. Go directly to the person. It’s because of fear that we talk to others. We end up being a gossip circle (not meaning to be). “It’s not good the way she walked in the kitchen....” We become busybodies. We’re not planning on talking to her. We have to tell someone. We lack the gumption to say, “YOU GO TALK TO HER RIGHT NOW!” That’s the standard. We must be outspoken. If we let each other get less and less involved with each other’s lives we become a religion just like we read about in history (Jms 5:7-8).

Melechah: How do we help the younger women, because now the teaching is bonding. You have three younger children and everything else is going on without them. They are totally secluded from the community. I wouldn’t ask them to do things because “they are bonding”... But when we started we all had to do everything or it would not have gotten done. I don’t want to bring in a spirit of “you have to do it because I did.”

We have to train the younger women to work a little bit with their children at their sides. If you have to be

secluded in your room to bond we are defeating the purpose. We're just working ourselves to death protecting the mothers so they can bond. But they aren't being prepared to be sent out. They will have to be the ones to "start" something, and there will not be any single women to do all the work. There are a few examples of people who are able to work without losing their focus on their children.

We can't bring our credentials to validate ourselves. That doesn't work because most of us seemed to be failures with our children in many ways. So, the younger women don't want to be like us. But we can go to one another on the basis of a 100% poured out life because we love our Master Yahshua. That puts it on a different scale. We have the child training teachings. We must remember our spiritual foundation. We are raising our children into a spiritual life. We have to ask our Father what to say to these young mothers. "Do you love Yahshua? Do you know Him? We want you to fall in love with Him."

We cannot get our eyes on ourselves and our performance or our children's performance. We must keep our focus. The answer to all our sister's problems is not a long counseling session. It is, "Yahshua loves you. He wants you to be His friend and talk to Him." It snaps us out of it. Tell them, "Read the gospel of John. Fall in love with our Master." We were raised on this. Don't go with a big theological discourse. It takes the wind out of all their troubles when they hear, "Yahshua loves you." "Really?" We have to have that kind of relationship with them to bring them back to reality. Bonding is good, but that ISN'T the gospel. It's related. But what gets those "bonded" children to FOLLOW you is because you love Yahshua. They can get the false idea that they're God. They need to know who God is. They'll respect your devotion and zeal for Him. Getting their hearts isn't always sitting in the room looking at them, but them being on the front lines with you, running with you, serving, bowing down with you to show hospitality (like Abraham). Teach them to serve and show hospitality.

Shomeret: We were taught at first not to teach our children to be demanding. I live with two immas with two children each that are close together in age. We have to live by the Spirit. Some women have to be pushed out of their room and some into their room. Some have to be told to take a nap and some not to take a nap.

Chanowk's letter says the infant won't be demanding unless its needs aren't met.

Huldah: I saw Chanowk's heart was wonderful toward his children. It has borne good fruit. But we have a very demanding situation here in our community. The child won't sleep unless the mother is there. If it's in our hearts we'll be led by the Spirit. If you just do what Chanowk said and don't put anything into them, they'll still be just as demanding and insecure BECAUSE THEY'RE EMPTY. It's a thing of the heart. If all the abbas were like Chanowk we wouldn't have children being screaming and demanding. Chanowk is so strict. He's direct. He keeps his distance and dignity, but such a love comes from him. They really respect him. He wants to get the family closer. We're trying to get to the heart. We don't want to go overboard and coddle them. It's a spiritual thing. We have to have spiritual ears. That's always the problem, what people do with that. It's not the quantity of time with the child but the quality.

Yael: It's not reality to have their abba always there with a story every night. I'm convinced that Ethan has their heart because he gets in their life at an early age. It sticks.

ha-emeq: It's the heart. Are we teaching the mothers to function in a normal way and still have the heart of their children?

Melechah: The only women there were in Bellows Falls to function were immas with big families. I see needs and go headlong into them with my children trailing behind. I did not give them the attention they needed.

Shomeret didn't get as much done, but she had a presence in the household; she was mindful of her children.

Things didn't always go well, but she instructed them and met their needs. She helped me to pay closer attention to my children. You can't be a spiritual woman without being outspoken. You have to speak what's in you. Shomeret was always honest with me about my children. She pointed out what they would say. She helped me so much. She was an example. I want to learn to be that way.

Shomeret: A lot of younger women couldn't judge what they were capable of. Some women were running around with their tongue hanging out while the younger women gave what they thought they could. Then they went on and enjoyed their afternoon while the other women were still going on and on doing everything. So we needed a schedule that put pressure on them. If they were overscheduled you could back off. You had to give them vision.

Melechah: We do preps together in the morning, everyone that is able.

Achsah: One takes the smallest children for a walk so the women can work together without children for a change or with their next oldest child who rarely gets one-on-one attention.

Mary Martha: We do it differently in Palenville because some women said it interfered with bonding. We all work on preps together for awhile if we can in the morning. They need fellowship even if we can't accomplish a lot. Things can build up and we go to one another, but we need to go without a self-righteous attitude, just pointing out faults. We find ways to involve people without making them feel they "have to do it or the others will think this or that about me."

The whole situation about bonding is difficult. You would like to lay clear laws, but you can't. It is too complex.

There are various children and temperaments, parents, problems. There are living organisms to deal with.

Children react differently to different parents. We have to deal with each personal situation and details. Let them know you listen to them and let them know you're praying for them! It's amazing what will happen.

Yacheved: Especially for our outward children. If someone encourages me about Olam just one out of every three days, I am so encouraged. That's what love will do for you. It goes a long way. That's a healthy community of people who love one another and are good friends. You may have weakness in child training or whether you sleep with your children or not, but if we're loving one another that's what makes your community the most Wonderful Place!

We don't know what's going on in the world. In some ways that's been good, but in some ways we need to know to be in the right state of mind ourselves in the current state of affairs. From 1960 till now the world population has doubled to 6 billion people. It has the potential to double in the next 40 years. If it does, people understand how many people the world can hold. Only 5% of the people of earth live in America where it's nice and soft and comfortable. Then there is Europe where they also live in luxury. But the rest of the world is pressed up against the fence of the rich countries like the Barbarians were in the days of the Roman Empire. The populations of the US and Europe is staying small because of abortion and birth control. The US has 50% of the world's resources, while places very nearby are poor and hungry. They're not going to take it much longer. They're going to push down the fence. The Mexicans are at the river waiting to come in. The end of our easy life of comfort could be near in these rich countries we live in. That makes us either want to go talk to everyone we can or be afraid. We can't be passive. We can't have the mentality that someone else will take care of it. We must cause our home to be a home. Our wonderful life is challenging and thankful.

There must be beauty in our homes; even though we're poor, we must be clean and tidy. Be creative. Shoppers should not be greedy people, just looking for themselves. Pray for the little group that goes out to shop... Don't say: "Oh, no! We only got \$40 this week." But say, "Oh, good! We received \$40 this week. It's what our Father provided." Tell the brothers that it's OK, whether it's little or much. Even if it's only a little bit our Father can provide for us.

Have meetings with the women. Make sure that the women make their beds in the morning.... Teach the women in your house. They don't know. "When you put your feet on the floor, you turn around and make your bed. Do it. Grab your covers..." Show them! If you don't, you'll be dragged away by all the responsibilities of the day and you'll never do it. "Oh, no! You get back in your room at evening preparation time and your bed is still a mess!" Our standard is: we don't want to go without making our beds. It takes away from our wonderful life. Even with five children you can do it, and train them to do it as well. The bed should be made, the clothes put away next. It is part of being a disciple.

Tamiydah (shel Kephir): I remember hearing about back in our early days when the married couples had apartments, that Yoneq decided to look in people's rooms. He found dirty dishes, unmade beds, messy rooms. He said, "We can't go on and 'serve the Lord' without making our bed." That always spoke to me. Rarely will there be so many priorities that we are unable to make our bed and have our room straight. I know that I have had the tendency to be detailed or on the other extreme in the past especially, but I remember working in the kitchen during the School House push and just having to leave everything one day because of the pressing needs. I had two young children at the time. I felt so bad because I could not tidy up my room that morning. When I finally got back in there much later that day I found things hung on a hook, extras put in a laundry basket, and

my bed made. Making your bed makes such a difference. This also taught me that if someone is just unable to give the time they really need to it, which should be rare, then you can do as ha-emeq did for me that day and do it for them. It also makes your room not shameful if someone were to come visit.

Yes. It takes away from this Wonderful Life we have. Messy rooms are not wonderful. The brothers can't live like that either. We have to teach them.... It's part of being a disciple. Yoneq used to take all the bedding from the single brothers' beds and put it all in the laundry room because he knew it must need to be washed or it would have been made.

Prisca: There are so many local people in the community. Our Father wants to do something in that area. There are so many new disciples and not many around with a foundation. Meetings will increase us there. How we got our foundation was with women's meetings, deli meetings, etc. It's easy to fall away from this. It will add more of a dimension. When you don't have these kinds of meetings... cook's meetings, social meetings, etc.... you spend a lot of time putting out fires. Wisdom can come through many councilors. It increases our "wonderful life."

Have women's meetings. "You" make it a fun thing. Study something... Bring it with enthusiasm. Have it be direct and pointed, concise. We're going to talk about this and this... We must go to one another. We need to get across what we need to say. Set a time, then go or there's always an excuse not to go. It takes away from this wonderful life.

The answer to the problem of conflicts and misunderstanding is seeking our Master and asking Him to clothe us.

He will give us the grace to not miss any inadvertent ways in one another. If we hear things about each other then we should go and find out, take care of things....

Remember to look to simple solutions. The Kingdom is made up of little children that need to understand.

Prisca: There's a lot of insecurity in us. The older ones are insecure and the younger ones are insecure. Why is that? Why do we suffer with it? In the *Mocking* teaching it talks about insecurity in the sheep caused by leaders not listening. Read this teaching. Insecure sheep are because leaders are not drawing people out and making sure everyone is involved. We must know we are important to our Father's purpose. Insecurity is an iniquity from the fall. Make sure everyone is happy and receiving grace, that they have a voice, that it matters what they say. It makes for a wonderful life when we notice one another. We belong to our Master. Let's drive out the insecurity!

Yacheved: Luke 21:34 — If we're weighed down with the worries of this life we won't have time to even look at one another. Example: If we're consumed with the weekend meal all week long then we aren't being concerned about our sisters. Sometimes there's a need to talk about the weekend meal, but when it starts on Monday and you talk about it all week, you can see you've made it too important. We're learning to not be weighed down and be secure. We need to bring security to the sheep. It's in women to like to settle in. We're strangers on this earth. We're just passing through. We have to just get beyond our own struggles and bring peace, love and joy. It's good to be all there, giving all, loving your sisters so that you're not glad to leave when you go. It militates against our life to go towards those who have that bent that you have.

We have fallen into being busy bodies. We have to see each other hearts and be friends. There is a spiritual battle going on. The evil one hates for us to go talk to each other. If we go to each other we'll see that they are just like us. The evil one does not want us to knock on that door. I remember one time a long time ago when I was suffering. I don't know with what because it seemed I was always suffering with something. Dardah came and I had the covers over my head. I was suffering, ready to give up and she knocked. I didn't answer. She knocked again. Still I didn't answer. Finally, she knocked again and came in and pulled the covers off of me and said, "What are you doing? I need you. I need your help today to do supper (or whatever it was)." She didn't let me stay in depression. She let me know that I was needed. I couldn't have my eyes on myself. She was my friend. We can't polarize, leaning towards those we're comfortable with. *The richness of our life comes from the value of every person we live with.*

D'rorah: People need affirmation and confirmation. Our neurim feel that way a lot of times. We need to create a more social life and draw people in. There's too many teachers, instructing one another and not loving one another. My husband said... "What happened to the life of the Edah?!" I find myself keeping my children



together on my little island. It's easier to go to those who are easier for US to go to. We're biting and devouring a lot of times. I want there to be warmth and love. I feel like I have to hover over my children and have to keep them separate from everyone else's (seemingly because of their problems). I'm such a coward. I guess there's the "liberals" and the "principled" when it comes to children. Now that we have heard this, we are going home and we're going to have a meeting! We are going to make Bellows Falls the most wonderful place! Change it! "I know how it needs to be." "Over my dead body will it be any other way." We're part of the stem. It's got to be "one heart and one way."

Draw out of people what's in them. Don't quench them when you see things in them. Draw them out and see them released... not getting tripped up over each other's iniquities. Have encouragement. Don't want to leave there...

Prisca draws out the good in people. She fans the burdens people have. We need to always be working ourselves out of a job. That's our standard. We need to raise up and send out. It doesn't matter how old we are. People are always being raised up. We're a living organism. This is foundational but some people have never heard it. They think, well, now I am the store manager (position)... So "now" I've made it. If they change jobs they think they've been fired. We must raise up, send out! If we're taking identity in having a position or have a hard time with this, then we're not disciples. Normal disciples don't count how many times they've moved. We have a very fluid life....

Neshef: I know that it is hard for me to go to my sister's door because I reason, "If I knock on the door will it turn into an hour and a half?" I don't know how to do it. It's nearly impossible....

ha-emeq: But if we have faith.... Let's pray and I "know" that He'll hear us....

Yacheved: (concerning our youth) They have zeal. They see what needs to be done. We have to encourage them. The youth in our community and a couple of older ones got a cleaning job and made the money to fix up our living room. It has looked bad for a long time. Tamar did curtains and made futon covers. They painted through the night. The next morning everyone was in awe. Their burden was fanned. All they needed was a little encouragement...

Tamar: I feel that we've gone off somewhere. Why don't we have the rich social life that you all had at first. Young people look for those they can rally behind. They want to be good but they don't know how. Seeing the windows haven't been washed for three years, so we're going to do them... Not looking for the best one to do it. Our love didn't get quenched because all we had was split pea soup. We need to love each other.

Elizabeth: In Cambridge it's the most beautiful community. There's lot of youth, but a lack of zeal. We have insecurities and it's affected our youth. We want to be part of the solution. We want to see them released. They have ideas! But our insecurities have affected us. There's passion and zeal in our youth. We need to overcome our own insecurities. These boys have so much in them. We have to overcome not going to one another, not being outspoken. We can't shut down our youth.

Tamar will help establish a standard here along with others from the next generation. Do not be afraid to knock on one another's door, and be friends. Be devoted to the fellowship of the Spirit, not letting your selves be divided. Get to know one another. Make effort to keep relationships. This is your region. We have to get outside the boundaries of our room. Be devoted to fellowship.

### **Exercising**

**We talk about getting old... 40-60 is not old, 80 is getting a little old.... We're not supposed to stop being lively, exercising. If you are not getting air you are dying. You will start getting stiff. Miriam is over 80 but she looks healthy, very fit. Sabra dances and does aerobics and she's in her 70's. You have the potential to be as strong and fast as a young person. You'll see! There will be an amazing change in your energy level. We're not that old! If you feel very old, something is wrong with you. If I don't exercise for while I get slow and tired. Try doing sit-ups and push-ups and in a week you'll see the difference in those stomach and arm muscles. In a month you will see them get hard. If you do those back exercises it will make your back stronger. There are certain exercises that you can always do and you will always be fine. You've got to do them from 25 years old and up or you will have problems. We need regular exercising.... Start women's exercises.... We have new aerobics for just women that are sensitive to**

women's problems. Encourage the women to do them, Say, "OK. Let's go girls! Downstairs and have some fun!" Not just people with heavy weight problems need exercise.... you need it. YOU have to be exercising yourself to tell others to exercise. It's for your own sakes. Be creative. Figure out what to do. Bring it here the next time you meet. We need a set of exercises to do with our music. We all need our brisk walks!

Yael: If we are spiritual women our Father will make us be everything we ought to be. I see myself in lots of ways as a little girl. Husbands and wives are a strong team and the evil one tries to separate them. We can be our husbands servants, really supporting them. Or we can be their worst enemy. We need them to be all they were created to be.

Ruth Brosseau: I see that the flag needs to go higher, the flag of love. I feel we're groping to know where the ropes are to pull it up. Being a busybody because of being a coward makes you bring things in wrong spirit. I see there is this sister who goes through so much and people are afraid to go to her. I want to conquer this sister in love... go to her room like Dardah did with Yacheved in the early days. That kind of love is what will save our sisters.

Hasah's song, "I know the Man I march with and I've come to love His cause." The fear keeps you TOO busy to have time to talk to a sister about something in her life.... Let yourself love that person. You can look in someone's windows, the windows of their soul – their eyes. And then something rises up within you of compassion. "Our Father loves you. You know how I know? Because I love you." Let the love that floods your heart... Love casts out fear...

#### On Forgetting Things

When you don't remember important things you may call it inadvertence. You need a "writing down book," a "book of Remembrance" like our Father has, so you won't forget something important or neglect to do something inadvertently. We think *inadvertent* means unintentional, but NO. It means careless, not giving the proper attention to. So, you forget and it's negligent. As rulers we have too many things on us. There won't be any inadvertent rulers.... Many things come up... write it down in the book you keep with you — a bound book. Set yourself to write things down. Get a book.

Tamiyah: One thing I've thought often about is respecting one another. Our children will not learn to respect unless we do it. When we came through here before a sister was suffering because of ways she felt people reacted to her. She didn't feel heard. I thought about even though there may be things in her life that hinder her she has endured much in the Body for years and she's still here. She is due respect... Not viewing one another according to their sin, but according to their heart. We need to respect one another.

Elizabeth: There's an old saying that goes, "Behind every successful man is a woman." But, in the community we can say, "Behind every great community are the women in unity!"

All women need exercise, not just pregnant women. Women experiencing menopause really need brisk walks.

Sekel: Feminists make menopause into a disease. I know our Father did not intend it to be that way. Women in other countries don't even feel it because of how they eat and how they exercise....

We need to understand our bodies, and be wise. We're going to start going by a MOON calendar. Training about our cycles and ovulation is not emphasized among our women. They don't even know about their cycle, their fertile and infertile days. On this calendar you can see a pattern. If we spend just a little time teaching that, 15 minutes to teach, it would save so much as far as understanding and helping their husbands understand how the woman's body functions. We want to rejoice every time we conceive a child. But we don't always rejoice because we know that the health of the mother or of the newborn they just had is at stake. That happens just because of ignorance. We can't be too shy to talk about it because of things put into us by Augustine so we feel uncomfortable to even talk about it. We have to cast out that spirit. A lot of women really want help. Get the older marriage-age girls together for a meeting. It's important. That's part of the responsibility of older women to teach. We want to rejoice EVERY time a woman gets pregnant. It's often ignorance that they get pregnant. It's Augustine's fault. Cast out Augustine! Make subjects like this light when you talk. Get the older marriageable girls also. It's important that they all know this.

I long to hear creative things we can do to bring back the social life. It doesn't often happen spontaneously, we

need to give ourselves to organize special events in our homes.

Rakefet: In regards to loving one another. Hosting family nights is good. Instead of giving money to go out and buy ice cream it made it pleasant when it was done for me. When I first moved to Oak Hill we had a family night. We got some money and drove to Greenville and got something there. It was not nice. Now we're hosted in the community on family nights. We feel loved. It made me want to do that for others, and really try to make it nice for them. Going out to the world for a "family night" is not part of our "wonderful life".

Bynah: I made a tape of fast dances to alternate with aerobics some mornings. People love it. You can get your heart pumping for 20 to 30 minutes without realizing it.

Savav: When we work together we can communicate. It's so fun to work together. Fixing up the house... painting and working together is a part of our social life. Lots of times our life isn't WONDERFUL because we are too weighed down.

Elishevah: We have to create a social life. I like to sing doing dishes with people. The enemy doesn't want us to have "a wonderful life". WE have to make it happen.

Huldah: I hear so many problems. These are the answers. It quenches our youth when they come to us with what they see but our insecurities cause us to not deal with what they say. It gets more and more degrading. Our life is not wonderful because we get life from other things. We're not consumed with creating it. When

Elisheva and I were very young we used to wait until a married sister was out of her room and we'd run up there, clean and fix up their room, put gifts, cards, flowers for her family to show her that we loved her. It's our life having care, doing that special something. We'd get their children up sometimes and get them dressed and clean their rooms with them. They would be all ready when the parents came in for them. That is how it still needs to be.