Derush — We heard yesterday about death being a place of torment, and I know that when I am disconnected, I am tormented. I can't find any peace. He came to save us from that place of torment, and I know I get a little taste of that when I'm not connected. I don't have peace about anything, especially when I'm not being humble.

1 Cor 6:17 says that whoever joins himself to Messiah becomes one spirit with Him. Your spirit and His Spirit become one. So when we are out of fellowship, we grieve or quench His Spirit. Whenever we sense that torment, it is because of guilt. It is because His Spirit is being grieved. His Spirit is jealous (Ex 20:3-5). It is good that you sense that; it shows that you are a true son, because He disciplines those whom He loves.

It says in Eph 4:30 that we can grieve His Spirit, and in 1 Ths 5:19 that we can quench the Spirit. When we are all together, being led by His Spirit in one direction, and someone brings a distraction or oppositional thinking, it quenches the Spirit, it quenches the fire.

Ashamed

So everyone who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before My Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies Me before men, I also will deny before My Father who is in heaven. (Mt 10:32-33)

Sometimes we are ashamed. If we are ashamed of Him, He will be ashamed of us, but Heb 2:11 says He is not ashamed to call us brothers. If we are His brothers then we are totally identified with Him in the same family and the same spirit, so therefore we won't be ashamed of our own family.

"So whoever confesses Me before men, I will speak of him before my Father." We speak of our Master before men, and He will speak of us before the Father who is in heaven. The apostles denied our Master for a while. Judas betrayed Him, but Peter said, "I don't know Him." We deny Him when we don't want to let people know that we are

His disciples. Or we may be afraid of being identified with Christian groups that hand out tracts or go door-to-door.

2

For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels. (Mk 8:38)

Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. (Mt 10:34)

So many people think He is going to bring peace, as if we will ever have peace in Iraq, but He didn't come to bring peace on the earth in this age. Certainly, through us, He is going to bring in the new age, the millennial age, and there will be peace then. But He didn't come to bring peace on the earth in this age. He came to bring a sword. He came to bring division. He is not interested in the worldly peace between nations. He is concerned with us being separated from the world and attached to Him.

So that sword divides and cuts in pieces. Verse 35 — "I have come to set a man against his father..." Why would a man want to be set against his father? Well, of course, that is talking about the father who is in the world. The son has to divide from his father in order to become a disciple, because the father keeps trying to persuade him not to. So a man's enemies will be those of his own earthly or worldly secular household. He who loves his father (or mother or wife or children) in the world more than Him is not worthy of Him.

And whoever does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me. (Mt 10:38)

Of course, the cross is an instrument of death to execute people with. We take it up in order to die on it. A lot of Christians wear a cross around their neck, or carry one across the country, but that is not what it means. You have to die — that is what the cross is for. It is not a symbol of distress or a heavy burden that you have to carry around with you. It is just the reality of our giving up our life for our Master Yahshua. We have to take up our cross and die and follow Him. You can't follow Him without first dying in baptism, and then daily as you lay down your life in the Body.

Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. (Mt 10:39)

So then, here we are. No matter what discipline we go through or how we may be misjudged, we have to learn how to take it, turn the other cheek, and not defend ourselves. Then we will be worthy to represent our Master, as the next verse says.

Whoever receives you receives Me, and whoever receives Me receives Him who sent Me. (Mt 10:40)

He is talking to His disciples. He is talking to each one of us, if we are worthy of Him. How do people receive our Master? Read the Bible? No. Read a tract? No. You have to receive a person who tells you about our Master Yahshua — you receive that person, and the spirit that person ministers. As a matter of fact, you are going to love that person and all the people who had influence in your life to make you a disciple and bring you to the point of having your sins forgiven and receiving eternal life, so that you are not going to go to the place of torment.

So that is reconciliation. You just can't receive our Master Yahshua. If you receive the sent one, you receive our Master; if you receive our Master, you receive the Father. Our Master is the Mediator between God and man, but who is the mediator between Yahshua and man? A disciple. A lot of people don't understand that. They think you can just read the Bible or read a tract and say a prayer. But you have to receive the person who has Yahshua, and if you receive that person, you receive Yahshua, and if you receive Yahshua, then He takes you on to the Father.

So that is a great and marvelous thing that we all can do. These are the things that we don't need to be ashamed of. It is a miracle that people are saved through people who love our Master and have no deceit or falsehood in them (Jn 7:17-18). And it is only those people who are willing to do our Father's will who will know that what we speak is from the Father. Our Master spoke that about Himself, but He is not here anymore in that sense. We are here in His place, representing Him as His Body on earth.

So whatever we speak, if the hearer is willing to do our Father's will, he will know whether it comes from Him or merely from ourselves, or even from Satan if we are pretenders. 2 Cor 11:15 — It says his servants; two billion people are deceived by Satan's servants, Satan's ministries. Jn 7:18 — There are two kinds of servants, two kinds of ministers: those who have falsehood or deceit and are seeking their own glory, and those who are seeking the glory of the One who sent them, because they are righteous. They don't hide anything; their sins are confessed.

If we go and talk to a person, and our sins are not confessed, he can't receive Yahshua from us. There is a blockage there between the man and Yahshua. The man Yahshua is the Mediator between God and man, but we are the mediators between man and Yahshua. So if we are sinning and not confessing it, we are not pure and clean and righteous, so it blocks spiritual communication. The person might receive words that sound good, but the Holy Spirit won't be entrusted to him, as it says in Jn 2:24.

So it says, "He who receives you receives Me," but that "you" there is someone without any unrighteousness in him, without any falsehood or deceit. If you told a lie and you never confessed it to the right person, our Father knows you lied. Ten years later, here you are, not prospering, and there is no way you can communicate Yahshua's Spirit to anyone. You are going to go to death. You are not worthy of the kingdom. "He who loves anything more than Me is not worthy of Me..." You love the sin you are covering up. Only those who are worthy of our Master will enter the kingdom (Rev 3:4). Worthy means comparable, compatible, those who are working along right with Yahshua without any sin or falsehood in them. They are open. They will walk with Him in white because they are worthy. They haven't soiled their garments.

How do you defile your garment? When you feel that guilt and you don't confess it, your garment gets more and more and more defiled, and your sins pile up as high as heaven. And then some savior — a brother or sister who loves you — comes and saves your soul from death. We are each other's saviors in that sense. We have a Savior, and

He sends us to our brothers and sisters to save them. That means we love them, we lay down our life for them. We are not afraid to go to them; we are brave, not cowards. The righteous are as bold as a lion. Isn't that what the Bible says? How bold is a lion? He is the king of the forest; he has no fear.

Mt 10:40 — "He who receives you receives Me." There is nothing in you that is blocking the way to our Master. That is why he can receive our Master through you, and so he will receive the Father. We take him to Messiah, and He takes him on to the Father. But there can't be any blockage there. Sin blocks the way — not just his sin, but your sin.

So what is sin? Not loving your brother. Knowing the right thing to do and not doing it. Have you ever done that? You know the right thing to do and you don't do it. You have to confess it to our Father, and certain sins you have to confess to one another.

Mt 10:41 — "He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet..." Now this prophet may be someone who is speaking. A person from the outside comes in and hears the prophets speaking, as it says in 1 Cor 14:24-25, and he falls on his face and confesses that God is in our midst. He receives the prophet right there; he receives the words of the prophet and falls on his face.

Mt 10:42 — "Whoever gives one of these little ones a cup of water..." Who are these little ones? They are the prophets, the ones who are speaking. *Little* means humble — little in their own eyes. If you are not humble, the Holy Spirit can't work through you. If you are not humble, then no one can receive Yahshua through you. Our Master can't be received through a proud person, but only through the humble, the little ones. We have to see ourselves as little ones, not big ones.

So if anyone gives this "little one" some cold water because he is a disciple, he will not lose his reward. It could mean someone on the outside or someone on the inside. It could be that some people give us "a cold drink of water" because they know we are disciples. They won't lose their reward. It could be speaking of parents such as Netsak's

father. Whether he is called to salvation or not, I don't think he has rejected the gospel, and he has certainly given and given to the communities, as so many parents have.

We need to understand who we are. Mt 10:24 — Don't think that a disciple is above his teacher, or a servant above his master. It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant would be like his master. So let's just keep ourselves little — little ones in our own estimation. Satan is proud.

Mt 12:35-37 — It is very important what comes out of our mouth. We have to really consider what comes out of our mouth. Our Master said *every idle word*. Can you imagine? What we say and how we say it... Our Master didn't speak idle words here, did He? We will be condemned or justified by what comes out of our hearts. What is in the well comes up in the bucket. "Oh, I didn't really mean that. I just kind of inadvertently said it..." What is in the well comes up in the bucket. We can't justify ourselves. Our words are either going to build up or tear down.

That doesn't mean that you can't say humorous things, but it has to be proper. It has to build up, not tear down. If we didn't need to know that, it wouldn't have been written down for us. But since it is written down, we have to say, "Father, help me know how to do this." The Word doesn't condemn us; it gives us light and understanding.

ha-êmeq — Sometimes when Baruch comes over to our house, he puts the car in idle and comes in to talk with us. He thought he was just going to come in for a second, so he let the car idle. It means to let it keep running, but it is not going anywhere. The gear is not engaged, and if you stand by it you can hear the engine going like a person chattering with his mouth, but not getting anywhere. The engine is meant to be providing fuel for all the cylinders in order that you can get somewhere, not just sit there in idle with the engine just chattering. It is all that stuff that comes out of the exhaust when you are just sitting there idling that you are going to be judged for. "An idle mind is the devil's workshop." So we must engage our minds as those who are willing to do our Father's will. In my version it says, "whoever *resolves* to do our Father's will." That is someone who has considered and set himself in a certain direction, and he is going

somewhere. He has resolved to do our Father's will. That is what Derush did: he *resolved*.

He didn't know he was willing to do our Father's will, but our Father knew it. Our Father knew his heart, that he would receive the one who was sent to him.

ha-êmeq — I think that a certain measure of resolve has to come into a person, or he is just an empty head that just says, "Where is McDonalds?" But there are some who have a certain resolve in them, and they are the ones who respond. The words we hear are all meant to take us somewhere. We all have these engines and we are fueled up, and so now shall we just idle the rest of the night? Some people say we work too much. Well, we have this resolve in us that always has to be accomplishing something. We are always sharing and talking and helping and washing, because we have this certain measure of strength in our bones, and we are supposed to love Him with every bit of strength we've got.

Strength is the stuff you use to pick something up with and to move. It takes a little strength to just hold this Bible, but we have to love Him with all our strength. We have to love Him with every bit of strength we have. That is why we don't waste time playing. We don't just idle. We use all of our fuel, everything in us that gives us a certain measure of strength.

If I asked you to pick something up right now you would call on this certain measure of strength, and that very strength that you exert for that minute, you are supposed to love our Father with all of it. So do you use any of that strength for just idle, foolish, empty things? No, for then you would not be keeping the commandments, because all your strength from here on out goes to our Father. It is all purposeful. I am thankful for what we heard tonight. It gives us stuff for our motor to go somewhere.

Each and every one of us was saved by grace through faith, not by our past works. We weren't saved because we did all these great works, but we were saved *for* good works — not *by* good works, but *for* good works. They were prepared for us in advance, that we might spend our lives in doing them (Eph 2:10). We spend our lives now doing those works that were prepared for us. If we are not going to be doing those works, we are just idle. We may work our hands to the bone, but it profits nothing if they are not the works that were prepared for us to do. In the beginning, we do all kinds of things, but the time will come, if we humble ourselves, that He will put us in our proper places

so the Body can be built up (Eph 4:16). Each person does his particular work to build that temple that our Father is going to dwell in forever and ever. We are saved for a purpose, to build something, not just to go to heaven.

Sarah — I am really thankful for what we heard tonight, and I have been thinking a lot about what Obadiah shared a while back, how our words go out of our mouth, but they don't stop. They keep going and going and going, even into the universe. Wow, they affect the entire universe! We are just so tiny in comparison, but our words affect everything. Everything is hinging on us. Our days are numbered, and soon another day is gone. I think about all the days that I didn't live for Yahshua, and I still struggle even to do that. But I am just thankful that we can change; we can ask Him for help. We are going to change by hearing our brothers and sisters when they say, "Do you realize what you are saying? Do you really want to talk that way? Are you connected to Yahshua? Is He your King today? Are you going to live idly today?" I am just grateful that there is mercy; we can think about these things and be sharpened.

Our words go out at 700 miles an hour, and we can't grab them after they go out. They are gone, either to build up or destroy.