



Encouragement from Set Apart Ministries, Inc.

May, 2007

Shalom!

We have several new things to bring to your attention this month. First of course, is the new "look!" Please forgive us any confusion as we learn the new tasks in our updated program!

Oh, and one "old" thing. Did you know that our website can be translated instantly into five other languages? Yes! French, German, Russian, Japanese and Spanish translation is available in seconds by clicking on one of the flags found on the home page.

We are so delighted to report that our **archived newsletters** now look almost exactly as they did when they were sent! Complete with pictures and active links. Many thanks to Cheryl for her persistence to make this happen. You can [click here](#) to get to the new index page that is organized by the year, names of articles, and the type of newsletter.

We are pleased to welcome **Boaz Michaels of First Fruits of Zion** here on Monday evening, June 4th for his presentation on Discipleship.

If you live near enough to join us, please give us a call or email for driving directions.

Our teleconference last month, on the subject of **"What do you say when they say, 'So, you're Jewish then?'"** turned out to be a good discussion of Dean Wheelock's article on the various "Titles" those Christian Believers of Messianic or Hebraic Heritage have used to identify themselves to others. We have run into some technical limitations of our website, but hope to have this audio file up and available to all in the near future. Look right on the [Invitation page](#) under the What's New? heading.

The Women's **Teleconference** will next be held in June and we are accepting requests to join this group as well as the Messianic Fellowship Leaders Teleconference. More below.

When Lason Hara Hits Close to Home: Leader to "Child"



If it is painful to bear the wounds from someone unknown, the difficulty of coping when it comes from someone close seems even greater. Now the resolution involves a desire to continue relationship and even to grow in relationship with the one who has offended.

The continuation of the series on **Dealing with Lashon Hara** is found here, with today's focus on options to consider when the source is close within your fellowship group.

There is also a **new article** up in the site, discussing the nature of "holidays," which developed in response to a question about why we keep the moedim. **The question: Isn't any holiday just about what we choose to make it rather than a YHWH directed time?** Comments are always welcome! We hope that this effort to respond to a very good question here may be helpful for any of you who hear the same concern.

As we complete the Counting of the Omer, may we all find ourselves drawing nearer to the Source of our Joy, our Blessing, and our strength, Yeshua, our soon coming King!

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Teleconferences



FOR WOMEN ONLY

Our next monthly teleconference will be held on June 24th at 9:00 am CST.

Watch for the announcement of specifics in your email box!

If you don't yet receive teleconference announcements, please contact us at:

info@setapartmingb.org and ask to be included!

MESSIANIC FELLOWSHIP LEADERS TELECONFERENCES

These conferences are available now for Fellowship leaders who could benefit from the opportunity to consult on how to handle difficult interpersonal concerns.

Group consultations take place over the phone at an agreed upon time by each group that is formed.

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Click here to register.](#)

Keeping Your Joy Full!

We recently came across a site that provides

Of course, we know that many people would choose to end the relationship at such a point, fearing what such a conversation might be like!

"Confrontation" is a four letter word to many!

In the end, they reason, it is better to keep things nice and just go away. The friendship is lost, too, but for too many people it seems, this is a loss they are willing to accept, rather than risk speaking directly about their concern. We do not believe that this is a Scriptural model and are greatly relieved that our Messiah does not just walk away when we fail Him.

In SAM, our motto has grown to be; "Pray, stay and don't run away!" Because we believe that we are called to walk in Torah and that we cannot do so alone, it follows that issues need to be faced and resolved in order for us to continue growing in the likeness of Messiah.

In the following paragraphs, I will discuss the various response options of a leader who is in either a parent or elder stage of maturity. *(This, of course, is our ideal but we do recognize that there are leaders who are struggling greatly because they have not yet matured enough to handle what is expected of them with quiet confidence, falling quickly into a reactive, emotional state themselves!)*

inspirational photo montages with music.

This one, on Rock Solid Leadership, is presented from a secular advantage yet includes the traits that we all would revere in a leader of our fellowships.

[Click here for a brief vacation for your eyes](#) and encouragement for your spirit on what it takes to demonstrate your leadership, knowing that we look not only to ourselves, but to our Messiah, **our** "Rock solid" Leader, to instill them and hone us according to His plan.

Quick Links

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Well, that's our offerings for your thought and prayer this month. *Your* thoughts and comments are always appreciated, too.

Blessings of strength and peace to you all!

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When lashon hara comes into the light among those closest to us, it may be through a direct statement of what happened or by a casual comment or indirect statement. Our main concern is that we not simply react in all the emotion of the moment, but rather work continually toward the building up of our joy strength, so that we can take even this kind of event in stride while still acting like ourselves. Part of the maturity involved here is also assessing the validity of the one reporting the concern. Are they mature and well able to discern meaning and intent or are they emotionally driven and easily reactive to any small grievance or perceived slight?

If the one who has spoken badly of another is one who is immature in age or emotional development, we may need only to gently speak to them about what they did, what led up to it, how it impacts others and so forth.

(You can contact us for a maturity evaluation form if you don't yet know how to make such determinations.)

This opportunity to teach is not to be missed as it will be well remembered for some time to come.

The intent of the parent/elder who speaks with the "younger" one must be positive, not intended to shame yet also being clear about whatever harm may have been caused or could be

caused by the action.

It is important, too, that the message be clearly given that the leader is still glad to be with the one who has offended and despite the pain it may have caused, still willing to walk alongside and encourage them. A leader needs to know something about the condition of the person's heart: are they tender hearted and just in error or is there a will full defiance involved? If the former, the gentle correction described above will be enough. If the latter, it may be necessary to speak more forcefully, yet respectfully, as well as establishing some fitting consequences as part of the resolution process.

If the comments were about a third person, a determination of the need for making amends and apology needs to be made. Sometimes we think that there is no need for such an apology if the comment never got back to the one it described.

This may be so, but it also follows that, just as the repentant sinner was required to lay his hands on the animal to be sacrificed for his sin, so may it be most edifying if the speaker admits this fault and asks forgiveness of the one he harmed. If this is the case, the parent/elder must be confident that the one being approached would be able to handle this tactfully and not reactively. If not, the effort may cause more harm than good; falling out of the teaching/discipline model

and into a destructive or abusive situation.

Next time, I will address the options when the lashon hara speaker is in more of an adult or parent stage of maturity.

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