

[<Back](#) [Print](#)

Encouragement from S.A.M.

An Equipping Ministry

August 2006

Shalom Aleichem!

This issue of our newsletter finds us still trying to re-establish routine after moving our office, attending the MIA conference, and for Barb, a family vacation. Not a day goes by that doesn't have more opportunities or tasks than we can accomplish. World events seem to be rushing along that way, too, don't they? How eager some are to push Israel into the sea and how much closer their actions bring us to the time of His intervention and Restoration of all things! May we not faint in the process!

Today, we are honored to present a picture of a Messianic congregation in Nigeria that has asked us for assistance. Michael Udombeke who wrote to us is in the middle of the picture with the elders. This picture was taken during Pesach. They are in need of many things, and are especially trying to set up an administrative office now. Can you help?



We are also pleased to have a picture of Ronen and Melanie Shalom and their children from Israel. They are working hard to establish a vineyard and a place for Ephraim to return, amidst bombs dropping and serious concerns for their safety. [Click here for their latest newsletter.](#) We have a number of their CD's of original praise music on hand for sale. All proceeds will go directly to them. Let us know if you are interested in supporting them in this way! Contact us at

Growing a Mature and Stable Community



Today, I'd like to write specifically to the congregation and home group leaders. Perhaps as you've read these articles, or even skipped over them, you haven't been convinced of the importance of the *Life Model* and maturity. I encourage you to rethink and reread these articles on maturity. [\(Click here to go to our Newsletter Archives.\)](#)

Here is something for you to think about: *Your congregation will not grow beyond the maturity level of the most mature person in the group.* Do you have elders in your community who are willing to oversee and sacrifice for the community? Do you have people at the parent level who are willing to come alongside those less mature and disciple them? Or, are the leaders of your community operating at a level below the

info@setapartmingb.org and let us know that you want their CD!



Plans for Hebrew and Shofar classes have moved ahead and are now scheduled to begin in September. We will be gathering in a county park for our Sukkot celebration for the entire week. This is the second year that we have been able to celebrate the entire week and we find it a very joy filled time! There is the opportunity to camp or it is close enough for our people to drive back and forth from home if they choose.

Gini Detrie of Isaiah 40 ministries has agreed to come and speak with us one day about the situation she found in her most recent Israel visit. *We have a copy of an article from Restore magazine about Isaiah 40 Ministries on our website--[click here!](#)* We will have more information about our Tabernacles gathering available in the next few weeks. We gather to honor our Messiah and soon coming King with a combination of set apart time, praise, prayer, study and fellowship time for those of us who live in our area. There are many gatherings around the country if you don't have a group in your area and we encourage you to set this time apart unto our YHWH ELOhim. You will be blessed!

We are also pleased to have confirmed that **Rebecca Park Totilo will be with us the weekend of November 10-12 to present on the Bride of Messiah.** Please mark your calendars to pray for her and her family, and us as we host them or to attend if you can!

David Gipson will be here in February, the third Shabbat to speak about the restoration of Hebraic Worship; A Heart for Israel More to come later on that as well!

We continue to strive toward completion of our materials on Maturity in Messiah, Planting and growing a strong Messianic Fellowship and our fall teleconference series. Many delays and complications have arisen along the way and we do appreciate your prayer cover for us in the process!

We do add our prayers to the many who are praying for the well-being of the Hale Harris and Scott Diffenderfer families

parent or elder stages of maturity?

It **IS** important to understand the maturity levels of your members before they start operating in their spiritual gifts. A person may have the gift of prophecy, for example, but if they are operating at a child level of maturity, the Word will lose its power because of their own flesh getting in the way. Meetings will become battle grounds with people wanting things done their way, arguing and causing disruption and seeking attention.

I have seen the damage of people allowed to be in leadership when they weren't ready. The congregation leaders did not take the maturity of people into consideration. Oftentimes, people were moved into leadership too quickly because of their personalities and/or their willingness to serve. Many problems arose, because these people **DID NOT** have the maturity to administrate and work with other people. This led to chaos, strife, hurt and angry feelings and people leaving the congregation.

I specifically recall one young couple who began attending the church. They were well liked, joined in Bible studies and were baptized. The problems then began. First of all, they **DID NOT** have a sound foundation in the Word. They were then quickly moved into ministry. The young husband, who was very personable, became fully immersed in the life of the church. The young wife began to resent his time in the church. She was disciplined by an older woman with whom she bonded and came to trust. She was handed over to another woman to disciple her because this woman was involved in the same ministry in which the young couple was working. The young wife was unhappy with the change. She was pressed to begin giving a full tithe to the church, which she did not fully understand, because she had not been fully trained in

who have both experienced major problems in the past few weeks: Harris family business was destroyed by fire, the Diffenderfers van was hit by a semi and they sustained many injuries, right before their daughter Sarah's wedding this week. We understand the Conrad's of MIA Shepherds council have also experienced difficulty. We are grateful for the preservation of their lives in the midst of these tragedies and urge you to join us in prayer for spiritual covering and guidance for them, the Woottens and all the shepherds of MIA.

As we prepare for the season of *Teshuvah*, may we all welcome the things the Ruach shows us and bring all our fears, our failings and our faith to Him for Restoration in preparation for the Feast that is to come!
(B.K.)

in this issue

- [Growing a Mature and Stable Community](#)
- [Is Grace Really Missing in the Old Testament? Can Grace be Misapplied?](#)
- [Keeping Your Joy Full!](#)
- [Teleconference Announcement](#)
- [About Us](#)

Is Grace Really Missing in the Old Testament? Can Grace be Misapplied?

Here is where we jump back into our discussion this issue. Is Grace Really Missing in the Old Testament?

Can the Concept of Grace be Misapplied to Avoid Learning YHWH's Commands?

This concern seems to be pulled out whenever someone is concerned about another person falling into legalism; by that they generally mean taking the Old Testament too seriously, or literally. Being ready to address these concerns with factual information is a wonderful way to respond. If someone comes at you with hostility, you can remain calm and direct them to the Word. If someone approaches you with concern for your misunderstanding, you will be equipped to show them exactly why you believe what you believe. Knowing that one is equipped makes it much easier to behave in a gracious manner to any attitude. Again, this is a part of our calling to be mature in every way in our Messiah. By paying attention to our own maturity, not only in Scriptural knowledge but also emotionally, we are able to maintain the quietness and confidence that Isaiah spoke of as our strength.

the Word. She was pushed without allowing the Ruach HaKodesh to convict her to give joyfully.

Sad to say, at this time, this young couple with such hope and enthusiasm have drifted away from *Yeshua*. Their marriage is struggling and they have much anger and hurt with one another and with the church they attended. No one took into consideration that emotionally and spiritually they were "children."

A community CANNOT have "children" leading in the community! This will only lead to strife and chaos.

LEADERS: Do you know your maturity level? Have you taken an honest look at where you stand? We all have weak areas that need work. I encourage you to take time right now to look at the maturity chart located on our website ([click here](#)). When you've filled it out, have someone you trust and know well also evaluate you.

After you've taken the inventory, find a mature person to hold you accountable in your weak areas. Pray and seek *YHWH* for His intervention. Set Apart Ministries is an equipping ministry and we would be sincerely blessed to help in this area. [Barb Klika](#), MSW, Personal Life Coach, has had much training and experience in behavioral health and relationship difficulties. She has a keen desire to come alongside congregational and home group leaders to help in this area. Email her at info@setapartmingb.org or call at 920-432-5002 or 920-336-7005 to ask her specific questions.

We HAVE seen growth in our own small community. We see growth in how people are dealing with relational conflicts and their own faith. As they've begun to mature, they are stepping up to more service in the community. We are not yet

Here are but a few examples of grace throughout the Tanakh/Old Testament.

As addressed earlier, legalism is a term not specifically used in Scripture. The concept was a concern for Paul as he addressed the concerns of those coming into Torah observance, but quite different from how the term is used today. If we truly understand the one type of grace as the allowances made for one when in error, unmerited favor, how can we fail to see the many, many evidences of grace in the Old Testament?

- Adam and Eve received grace when they were given coverings for themselves after the fall. Their death occurred on that day of their sin, yes, but within the 1,000 years as we are told a day is as a thousand years to our God.
- Cain was not killed on the spot for his sin of murder, but allowed to live; even when YHWH certainly knew of the rebellion that his generations would bring, ultimately leading to the Flood.
- Moses argued with *Elohim* over whether or not he could speak well enough to accomplish what was asked—and rather than being harmed for his fear, he was given Aaron to help.
- Elijah fought a great battle of faith over the prophets of *Ba'al* and won; yet within hours he was running in fear. . Did he meet with scorn and judgment? No, YHWH provided rest and nourishment for him.
- Judges is nothing but a cycle over and over of *YHWH Elohim's* grace toward his backslidden people. . Ever read how the angel addressed Gideon at first? "Hail mighty warrior!" To one who was hiding in a shed while sifting grain for fear of marauders? Sounds like grace to me to address one in the manner he would grow into, rather than the state he was in at the time!
- David was a murderer and an adulterer, yet he was given grace and called "a man after God's own heart."
- Hannah found grace in the opening of her womb and the birth of Samuel, likewise had Sarah and Rachel found such grace.
- Ruth, a Moabite woman, found so much grace as she honored her mother-in-law and her God, that she became one of Yahshua's ancestors!

Once you get started I am certain you will have no problem finding evidence of our YHWH's grace through the Scriptures, Genesis to Revelation.

CAN THE CONCEPT OF GRACE BE MISUNDERSTOOD AS AN

finished. *YHWH* is continuing to work in us to expose the areas that still need growth.

Recently, during our on-going *Life Model* group, we took a look at the guidelines we had set in place some years ago when we first began the group. It was a blessing to discover some of the guidelines no longer applied or it was not necessary to make a statement because we have grown beyond those stages.

If you are finding strife and constant struggle in your group, take time to step back and look at your own maturity and those in leadership. Not only will you have a stronger fellowship but families will become stronger as parents assume their proper roles. Growing in maturity will give you tools to help the wounded and weak in your group.

In Exodus 18, *Mosheh* selected "able" men to lead over the people. First, he was to teach them in the ways of *Torah* to "show them the way in which they should walk and the work which they do" (Ex. 18:20). When they had a particularly difficult matter, they were to bring the matter to *Mosheh* who spoke directly to *YHWH*.

Here are some specific steps for raising up leaders:

1. Prayerfully select mature people. Examine their fruit over a period of time. What is their maturity level?
2. Train them up in *Torah* and how to apply the teachings of *Torah* in daily life.
3. Continue to oversee their leadership, giving instruction in areas they do not yet understand.
4. Keep your leaders accountable in their maturing process. What are they doing to strengthen their weakness?

EXCUSE FOR NOT LEARNING YHWH'S COMMANDS?

I owe Dietrich Bonhoeffer for the term "cheap grace" which he used to refer to people who basically did whatever they chose and then claimed forgiveness. This misunderstanding of grace can be stated as free license for whatever behavior seems good to an individual. As Paul asked, should we continue in sin because grace abounds? May it never be! (Romans 6:1-2)

Oh yes, grace can surely be mistaught and misapplied. In the desire to be free from the error of rigid interpretation of the letter of the law, people can all too easily run right over the line into the camp of the anti- nomian (anti=against, nomia=Law from the Greek) stance.

Funny, that this term doesn't seem to bother people very much today.

Yet, Yahshua confirmed that not one jot or tittle of the Righteous Teachings (that HE had spoken there on Sinai with the Father) would pass away before heaven and earth pass away. Matthew 5: 17

Of whom are people more afraid? Peers that might call them legalistic if they obey the Righteous Teachings/Torah of YHWH or YHWH Himself if they speak against His Law? Of whom are we instructed to be more afraid: Those who can kill the body but not the soul, or He who judges the heart and Who's Word is a sword piercing to the bone and marrow? We know the answer to that one!

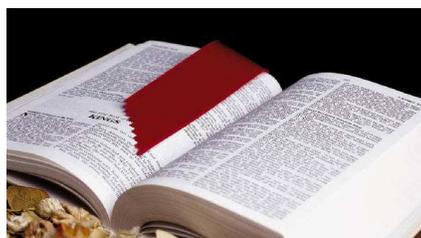
Next time we will address:

HOW DO WE DEAL IN GRACE WITH PEOPLE WHO DON'T TRUST GOD AND HIS GRACE BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN BETRAYED AND TRAUMATIZED BY THOSE WHO SHOULD HAVE PROTECTED THEM?

In every way, continue to grow up into our Messiah so that you can meet challenges such as these with peace and grace in your heart and gracious words in your mouth. (B.K.)

Keeping Your Joy Full!

Does it ever happen in your life as it does mine, that the deep joy and certainty of knowing you are walking in His will is sometimes camouflaged by events,



Perhaps this seems very basic to you, but these simple steps will help to head off difficulties in the future of your community. Teach people the importance of understanding their maturity level. If you remember from earlier articles--IT IS NOT YOUR FAULT FOR THE LACK OF MATURITY, BUT YOU'RE NOT STUCK IN THAT PLACE EITHER. There is help. As we allow *Yeshua* to expose the immature areas of our lives and confront them, we will grow in grace and knowledge and so will our congregations.

May *YHWH* bless you as you allow Him to work in your life. (M.G.)

Quick Links...

[Messianic Community Leadership Concerns Survey](#)

[Dry Bones Restoration Company-Frank Houtz](#)

[Rebecca Park Totilo](#)

[Messianic Discipleship Resources from Natan Lawrence, Hoshana Rabbah](#)

[Sheep of Israel-David Gipson](#)

Join our mailing list!

things people may say or do in misunderstanding, or just the "sensibleness" of the world's teachings and expectations?

Sometimes the things our Abba asks us to do seem far fetched or beyond that common sense don't they?

Yes, of course! They aren't about common sense but about Him, Who is so far from common!

When we encounter those temptations to fall into worry or doubt about how our Messiah is leading us, we could be being tempted to listen to our flesh, or what Jim Wilder, PhD has dubbed the "sark." *It is the part of ourselves that has not fully entered into the heart that our Messiah has designed in us.*

I was recently reminded through the writings of Oswald Chambers that we need only ask ourselves, as our Messiah did of His parents when He was at the Temple; "Didn't you know I must be about my Father's business?" Can you hear in your spirit, the amused, affectionate quality of such a response? "Why of course, I must be doing this! It is what my Abba has called me to do." What else could bring such deep joy! (B.K.)

Teleconference Announcement



Ladies! Mark your calenders!

Sunday, August 27, 2006
9:00 AM CST

Our next scheduled For Women Only teleconference will be held in the morning again this month!

This teleconference is open to all women who are coming into a *Torah* observant lifestyle who may be single, divorced, widowed or even married but whose spouse isn't yet interested.

Our discussion will follow the format below: Introductions and Get Acquainted Time

Discussion Time

Topic for the Day: Fall Feast Preparations

Prayer Concerns and closing

To register for this month's teleconference, please contact us with your email address. We will send out a reminder several days prior to the conference, with the telephone number and PIN number to use to enter into this month's discussion!

About Us

Barbara L. Klika, MSW, LCSW, Personal Life Coach is a licensed mental health professional and founder of Set Apart Ministries, Inc., in practice since 1983 with an abiding interest in working with attachment/bonding and maturity issues for individuals, couples, and groups. She has been a congregational leader for over 20 years in several areas, including Bible Study and vocal and handbell choir direction. She is also a certified Bethel Bible Study teacher who has



participated in serious study of the Word since 1993 through such organizations as Precepts Ministries and First Fruits of Zion. She has completed basic coaching training through MentorCoach, Inc. and will be continuing work toward an additional Masters degree in coaching. Barb has provided the clinical leadership in pursuing the Life Model group and individual teaching and processing emotional and maturity issues for the past 3 years. She offers her gifts of exhortation, discernment, intercession and prophecy to the Body of Messiah, both locally and in our extended community via telephone and the Internet.

Marilyn T. Guffey, lay counselor, Personal Life Coach. Marilyn had been a congregational leader in her home church for over 20 years, providing Bible study, worship opportunities and lay counseling for women in transition for most of that time. She has completed her basic coaching training through MentorCoach, Inc. Marilyn has been the coleader in the provision of group and individual teaching and processing emotional and maturity issues for the past 3 years. Marilyn is a serious student of the Word and has participated in and provided many Bible study opportunities, most recently with First Fruits of Zion and numerous additional Messianic Torah study materials. She thrives on offering her gifts of mercy, discernment, encouragement, intercession and helps and has a strong desire to support the Body of Messiah in growing in maturity and faith, both locally and in our extended community via telephone and the Internet.

Board Member (VP) and support person Janell Schroeder, BBA works professionally as a computer reports specialist for a very large transportation company. She has been instrumental in the founding of Set Apart Ministries, functioning as a support person for people going through trauma recovery. She has attended numerous training experiences in this area and has participated in the Life Model program since its beginning. Janell is a certified Bethel Bible study teacher as well as a certified Precepts Bible Study teacher. She has also been in leadership in her previous congregation as a member of church council and in Adult and Child Education. She is currently working on her Bachelors Degree in Messianic Studies and plans to complete a Masters Degree through

the Messianic Bible Institute Yeshiva. She brings her spiritual gifts of teaching and helps to our home Set Apart Ministries Community.

Board Member, Secretary Treasurer: Robert Klika, BS Bob currently works professionally as a supervisor in the area of milk sanitation for the Wisconsin Dept. of Agriculture. Bob has been a leader in previous congregations through service on church council as well as in men's ministries. He provides leadership in several areas of our home community, particularly in the areas of practical arrangements for gatherings, youth ministry and fun nights, and corporate prayer as well as keeping accounts and necessary organizational paper work. He completed his high school education in a Roman Catholic Seminary and has participated in Bible study since then through several studies, including the Bethel Bible Study series and Messianic Torah for the past 4 years through First Fruits of Zion and many additional supplemental materials.

email: info@setapartmingb.org

phone: 920 432-5002

web: <http://www.setapartmingb.org>

[Please pass this newsletter on to those you know who are new to Walking in Torah and those in Messianic Community Leadership.](#)

 **SafeUnsubscribe®**

This email was sent to info@setapartmingb.org, by info@setapartmingb.org
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



Set Apart Ministries Inc. | 1620 S. Ashland Ave. #104 | Green Bay | WI | 54304