

JAN- JUN 2021

***The Remnant's
Walk***



Joh 4:35 Do you not say that after four months comes the harvest? Behold I say to you, lift up your eyes and see the fields that are white and have ripened for the harvest already.

... is a Worldwide Ministry aimed at restoring the Faith once delivered by Yahshua of Nazareth to the Congregations at its inception close to 2,000 years ago. This restoration needs to take place in order to reach those with ears to hear and eyes to see the truth from the lies, so that the good news of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations. *(Matthew 24:14)*

We encourage all those who consider themselves to be true believers to ask: “which congregation do I belong to? The true faith our Savior Yahshua the Messiah set down in the year 30 CE, or the false doctrine, drenched in paganism and sun worship, as set down by Constantine in 325 CE?” The two are vastly different and we cannot serve two masters. *(Matthew 6:24)*

One was a Hebrew Congregation with a Hebrew Savior that was completely Torah observant. The other was and still is a counterfeit, lawless church, sealed by the decrees of Constantine and implemented for the sole purpose of deceiving and enslaving mankind. *(Revelation 12:9)*

The articles contained in this publication are motivated by the Word of Truth, the Holy Scriptures, inspired by our Almighty Father Yahweh and Yahshua Messiah, His Son. Words made manifest through the power of the Holy Spirit. *(2 Timothy 3:15-17)*

Some articles are reprint articles from the old Good News magazine and will say reprint. May you be blessed and grow in truth and Spirit. In His wonderful name. Shalom...

Remnants Walk

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Personal

by Don Esposito

Greetings Brethren,

And shalom in the wonderful name of Yahshua Messiah. Truly, 2020 brought in many lifestyle changes that none of us may have expected when the year began. However, one change that took place that has affected people all over the world was in travel restrictions due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Laterally, all over the globe, airports shut down and even full countries having lockdowns to non-citizens, even continues up until now in some areas.

This has restricted or limited the way that many brethren in the first world have gone about in bringing the Good News message from the great commission in Matt. 24:14. However, many brethren in the third world, or even communist and Muslim countries have always had to use caution and wisdom in bringing the Good News to their areas, and in these areas, there was actually even more fruit borne this past year than in most other years.

Now, as 2021 is upon us and vaccine programs are going out worldwide, no one can really know what will come next, and how much worse these restrictions may become in sharing the Good News on a global scale.

On one hand, our congregations and communities are working on preparing food and supplies for a worst-case scenario, depending on how things go from here; and yet, on the other hand, we can't forget about our great commission of bringing the Good News worldwide until Yahweh will officially bring in the famine of the Word that was prophesied by the prophet Amos.

Amo 8:11 Behold, the days are coming, declares Adonai YAHWEH, that I will send a famine into the land, not a famine for bread, nor a thirst for water, but rather a famine for hearing the Words of YAHWEH.

Amo 8:12 And they shall stagger from sea to sea, and from the north even to east; they shall roam about to seek the Word of YAHWEH, and they shall not find it.

Brethren, as dire as our situation may seem at times, we must stay focused on bearing fruit for the Kingdom of Yahweh, as this should be our top priority of our calling. Many have used many excuses before for not bearing fruit, and now will continue to simply use Covid as another excuse for neglecting the work of Yahweh in their lives. However, as the world becomes more uncertain that also means that more people are looking for answers that can only come from Scripture.

We must be vigilant as the 5 wise virgins in Matthew 25, and see that although chaos may be lurking around us worldwide, that there is even now a greater harvest to come that is ready right before our eyes, if we have eyes to see, and will simply do the Matthew 24 program from the website.

Joh 4:35 Do you not say that after four months comes the harvest? Behold I say to you, **lift up your eyes and see the fields that are white and have ripened for the harvest already.**

Joh 4:36 And he that reaps receives a wage and gathers fruit unto life that is eternal.

There is no greater time to bear fruit than now! Yahweh Bless,

Elder Don

Do Not Say There Are 4 Months Left To The Harvest



By Don Esposito

How involved are you in the work of the Eternal Creator, Yahweh? Are you one of the many covenant people out there that basically have a good heart, give their money to help the poor, honor the Sabbath Day, but just don't have any extra time during a hectic, filled week to put into the work of Yahweh?

I once met a man who told me that after his two 8 and 9-year-old daughters were grown and married, (in about 15 years or so) then, he would start to think about getting involved in the work of Yahweh. How sad it is today that most covenant believers have no idea what responsibility they have as a disciple of Yahshua in the end time work of calling back the children of Israel into covenant relationship with Yahweh.

Luk 14:33 So then every one of you who does not forsake all his possessions is not able to be My disciple.

Yahshua was very clear that to enter covenant relationship with Him meant that you had to give Him total surrender of your life; that everything you had, including finances to physical talents, such as building or playing a musical instrument, had to be used for His glory and not your own. And to be a disciple of His, you had to recognize that you belonged to the One who purchased your soul with His very own blood.

1Co 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a sanctuary of the Holy Spirit in you, which you have from YAHWEH, and you are not of yourselves?

1Co 6:20 You were bought with a price; then glorify YAHWEH in your body, and in your spirit, which belong to YAHWEH.

In western society people are brainwashed into thinking that freedom is some sort of inalienable right. People are taught from almost birth to do what is best for themselves and that humans are basically good people. However, Scripture states the exact opposite:

Rom 3:10 According as it has been written, "There is none righteous, not even one!"

Rom 3:11 "There is not one understanding; there is not one seeking YAHWEH."

Rom 3:12 All turned away, they became worthless together, not one is doing goodness, not so much as one!"

Do we grasp that fact in our lives? Do we truly believe from the depth of our being that we had a death penalty to pay on judgment day, and that only by surrendering our life to Yahweh, by the shed blood of His Son Yahshua, can we have eternal life dwelling in us today?

Do we honestly consider ourselves, not only disciples, but living slaves to our Master Yahshua; the One who redeemed us from our death sentence to the promise of our eternal inheritance in the physical land of Israel to reign with Him for all eternity?

Simon, the Pharisee from Luke the seventh chapter was one who could not see this. The Pharisees fasted twice in a week, and they gave the tithe of all their possessions, and thought of themselves as basically above their normal Jewish counterparts of their day. Simon, as many of the Pharisees of his day, just couldn't see himself as a sinner in need of redemption. Just the opposite; through their self-righteousness they justified themselves in not only not needing the Messiah of their day, but actually, even played a role in having Him crucified.

This is such a vital point that believers need to see today. They need to grasp the fact of their grace (redemption) every day of their lives. It is only through this realization, that apart from Yahweh and His Spirit living in us, that we are totally worthless. It is only through this realization that we can start to allow Yahweh's Ruach (Spirit) to fill us with His very love, which is His character.

Luk 7:47 For I say this to you. Because **her sins that are forgiven her are many, she has loved much. But he that is forgiven little loves Him little.**

We need to internalize daily that wonderful redemption that the Heavenly Father is doing in our lives and the lives of all His chosen elect worldwide. And the greatest way to show gratitude to Yahweh for sending His Son to die for the penalty of our sins is to share that salvation with others.

Ezekiel 18 states that it is not the will of Yahweh that any should perish from His creation, yet because He loves us, He gives to us freewill to choose life from death. Obedience and loyalty to His written Torah is life, and disobedience to His Torah and choosing our own way to live only leads to death. So, the greatest way to show appreciation for what He has done in our life is to share this wonderful gift of salvation with others.

Joh 4:35 Do you not say that after four months comes the harvest? Behold I say to you, lift up your eyes and see the fields that are white and have ripened for the harvest already.

Joh 4:36 And **he that reaps receives a wage and gathers fruit unto life that is eternal.**

This scripture is very interesting. In John the second chapter, Yahshua was going up to Jerusalem for the Passover and now it is after that time a bit, probably right around Shavuot. We know this for sure as John 5:1 states about Him going back to Jerusalem later for a feast, which would have been Sukkot. But the interesting part is that here in what we would call the Roman month of June, the fields were white to harvest. Only in a Sabbatical year would fields be white to harvest in June at Shavuot. However, due to the Shemita they still would not be able to actually harvest until about 4 months later when the Sabbatical year would end, and harvesting could begin after Yom Teruah. A Sabbatical year is supposed to be a year of rest, and Yahshua used this analogy to show that when it comes to the work of Yahweh there is no Sabbatical rest.

Joh 4:34 Yahshua said to them, My food is that I should do the will of Him who sent Me, and that I may finish His work.

Yahshua was totally focused on the work of Yahweh and the mission He was sent to. How about you? The work of Yahweh is what He has been doing in the New Covenant Congregation for almost 2,000 years now. It is not the work of some man or corporate church, but the work of Yahweh, and He blesses us when He allows us to participate in the wonderful work that He is doing in the world today.

The work is not the same for any one of us. Some, like myself, have been blessed to be evangelists, and physically take the Good News message to people worldwide. Others are pastors and teachers, others are prayer warriors and intercessors, and still others have been blessed to use their physical skills of building, or computer work, or to give of their physical mammon that they have been blessed with to help provide to the great work that Yahweh is doing worldwide.

Joh 4:37 For in this the word is true, that another is the one sowing, and another the one reaping.

Joh 4:38 I sent you to reap what you have not labored over. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.

But one thing is clear, we are all on the same team and there is only one leader, our Savior, Yahshua Messiah. We are all ambassadors for the Kingdom of Yahweh. This is our first and foremost commission in life. Anything else is merely there to either temporarily provide for our existence or to teach us some lesson on our way to the Kingdom.

Let us remember this in such a fast paced, complicated world, that no matter what we are doing on any given day, that this is our vocation, and this is what we are preparing for. And if we truly want to reign with Yahshua Messiah for all eternity, then we must prepare now for that great commission to come. Like any other important job, we have to get training for the great assignment that will be given to us at Yahshua's return.

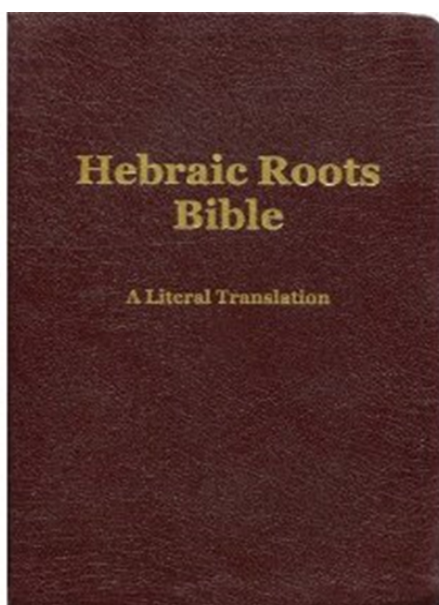
Remember Yahshua's words:

Mat 9:37 Then He said to His disciples, **The harvest truly is great, but the workers few.**

Let us be about our Heavenly Father's business and be reaping fruit for His Kingdom as without fruit we will not be accounted worthy to be there.

Joh 15:2 Every branch in Me not bearing fruit, He takes it away; and each one bearing fruit, He prunes, so that it may bear more fruit.

Joh 4:36 And he that reaps receives a wage and gathers fruit unto life that is eternal. And the sower and the reaper together will rejoice.



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KEEP MOVING!

A 1914 disaster on the icy Labrador Sea points up many lessons about our spiritual survival as Believers.

Reprint Article By Ford Burden



Every spring tens of thousands of square miles of ice cover the frigid Labrador Sea.

This ice field, known as the “Front,” is made up of floating ice pans that vary in size and thickness. The pans can be several feet thick and can hold a few dozen men.

Each year the Front flows southward with the current toward the island of Newfoundland.

Beginning in the latter years of the 17th century, men hunted on this ice. They were mostly Newfoundland fishermen struggling to make money to feed their families. It was rough and dangerous, but a berth on a ship bound for the Front was much sought after.

To adventurous young men it was always an exciting trip. To the older men the trip was more serious. They had a sober respect for the ice, knowing full well its dangers.

A shift in the wind could loosen the ice pack and separate the men from their ship. Ice pans could sink under a man’s weight. Some of the old wooden steamships could be crushed by the shifting ice. In 1914 not all ships were equipped with a wireless (the early radio equipment).

Without one, a ship could not communicate with other ships in emergencies.

That year, one of the worst disasters in Newfoundland’s history occurred on the ice. The men involved left an incredible story of endurance and heroism. We as Believers can draw many lessons from their experience.

Stuck on the ice

Seventy-two years ago, on March 30, 1914, the *Newfoundland*, one of three wooden steamships on an expedition in the area, became stuck in the ice.

The captain of the *Newfoundland* ordered 134 of his men over the side of his ship. Their orders were to hike about six miles over the rolling, jagged ice field to reach another steamship, the *Stephano*.

Walking through the ice field was an unenviable task. It took five hours to make it to the *Stephano*. When the exhausted men arrived there at noon, they expected to stay for the rest of the day and night, especially since the weather was getting bad and a storm was brewing.

But the captain of the *Stephano* made a fateful mistake. His mind was absorbed with finishing the hunt as soon as possible and being the first to return his ship to port. The captain seemed oblivious to the welfare of the *Newfoundland* men. He wanted them to return to their own ship. He gave them a quick, skimpy meal and put them back on the ice.

It was a decision he would live to regret.

After only 40 minutes of rest before being put back on the ice, the men were still exhausted. To make matters worse, the sky grew dull and gray, and the freezing air blew more and more snow over the ice. A storm was definitely coming, so the men quickly decided to head back to their own ship.

Many of the men were upset with the captain's decision, but they obeyed. They wished they had stayed back on board the *Stephano*, but it was too late. Soon the drifting snow covered their trail, and they became lost.

The older and more experienced men quickly realized the danger they were in. They knew that if they had to spend a night on the ice, their lives would be at stake.

Cecil Mouland, who was at the Front for the first time, suddenly remembered his grandfather's advice: "My son, if you get caught out on the ice, always keep your jaw moving. It'll keep ye from getting frostbitten." Cecil had a girlfriend at home waiting for him. He intended to marry her, and had no intention of returning to her with a frostbitten face. He was glad he had brought with him some hard bread.

At first it rained on the men, and then the wind began to howl, pushing the wind chill factor to minus 30 degrees Fahrenheit. At that temperature it hurts even to breathe. Most of the men were ill clad, wearing only cotton clothing, without their waterproof oilskins. Their soaking clothes froze to their flesh. Hypothermia, a term the men probably had never even heard, was the deadly condition they faced. When a person is exposed to excessive cold for a long time, he becomes numb, movement is difficult and irresistible drowsiness overtakes him. He staggers. His eyesight fails; he falls and may become unconscious.

Keep the blood flowing!

"We've got to keep warm! Keep the blood flowing in your veins!" shouted Jesse Collins, a veteran at the Front. He knew from his many years of experience that if they stopped moving, stopped the blood from flowing, they would freeze to death.

He emerged as a leader, pushing, shouting, and motivating the weaker and younger men to keep moving. He got them to sing, dance lively jigs, and march around the ice pans—anything to keep them moving. In a physical way he fulfilled the Apostle Paul's admonition: "But we, the strong ones, ought to bear the weaknesses of those not strong, and not to please ourselves" (Romans 15:1). Many men had ice over their eyes, freezing them shut. Jesse sucked the ice off many of the men's eyes, causing his lips to freeze badly. But he kept moving and motivating others to do the same.

Cecil Mouland refused to die. At home in Doting Cove was his sweetheart Jessie. She was a teacher at a small school, and he was determined to return to marry her, no matter what.

Cecil's cousin, Ralph Mouland, was also on the ice with the *Newfoundland's* crew. Ralph was drained of all strength, and he lay down to die. He couldn't take it anymore.

Cecil, dreading the thought of the pain Ralph's death would cause his aunt and uncle, refused to let him quit.

"Here, boy, have some of this," coaxed Cecil, trying to get Ralph to eat some hard bread. But Ralph had no energy to eat it, so Cecil put the chunk of hard bread in his own mouth to soften it up and gave it back to Ralph. Then Ralph slowly and painfully struggled up from the ice, and began to move again.

For some it was all too easy to let numbness creep up their limbs, arms, legs, and into their brains. Some kneeled down to pray, and were found frozen to death in that position.

Many men gave in to drowsiness. Wanting to rest for just a few minutes, they sat hunched together to keep warm. But most of these men collapsed into unconsciousness and died within minutes.

Others kept moving.

One man was at the Front with his two sons. During the night he put his arms around them, and they tightly embraced each other. The next day they were found frozen to death in that position. They stood like solid pieces of sculpture with snow drifting around them. They had stopped moving.

Spiritual Hypothermia

What does the word *survival* mean to a Believer? To these men on the ice, it meant saving their physical lives. To a Believer, survival means qualifying for the gift of eternal life, rather than incurring the penalty of eternal death.

Spiritual survival means overcoming temptations, personal problems and Satan's persecution in a cold, cold world. To survive and be rescued at the return of YAHSHUA MESSIAH is akin to surviving hypothermia on the ice. But Believers have to fight spiritual hypothermia every day of their lives. To stop moving means eternal death.

After two days and two nights on the ice, the men were spotted by one of the ships plowing through the ice. Their ordeal was finally over. Seventy-nine of the 134 men had frozen to death. Fifty-five had kept moving and survived. It seemed a miracle that any survived. What was so special about those who did? What kept them alive?

The men who survived the *Newfoundland* disaster did so only **because they displayed a blend of strength and perseverance**. This blend is called stamina. Those who died were unable to exercise this quality.

Believers need the same spiritual stamina to qualify for the Kingdom of YAHWEH.

Surviving Spiritually

Most of the men who died on the ice were ordinary men with ordinary stamina. They had little chance of surviving.

Most of the people in YAHWEH's Congregation are ordinary people with ordinary stamina. Of themselves, they have little chance of surviving spiritual hypothermia and enduring until YAHSHUA returns. Elohim chose the "weak" ones of the world so that He might put to shame the strong things (1 Corinthians 1:26-28).

But Believers have an incredibly powerful advantage that unconverted people don't have. Believers have YAHWEH's promise that He will rescue us from every trial. The men of the *Newfoundland* did not know if their ship would come to their aid. Believers know that YAHWEH always will (Psalms 37:23-24). YAHWEH knows our spiritual weaknesses, and He has promised to rescue us when our trials are more than we can take: "YAHWEH is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able. But with the trial, He will also make the way out, so that you may be able to bear it" (1 Corinthians 10:13).

Once, during the second day on the ice, the men of the *Newfoundland* could see a ship coming toward them, several miles away. Joy and relief warmed their blood, as the ship made its way closer. But the ship, not seeing them, turned away

and soon disappeared. Some men almost immediately fell to the ground and gave up, resigning themselves to death on the ice.

To qualify for YAHWEH's Kingdom, Believers must go through many trials (Acts 14:22). Unfortunately, some Believers lose faith and give up fighting the problems that confront them. They are like the seed that fell on stony ground: "But he has no root in him but is temporal. And when trouble or persecution comes, he is quickly offended because of the word" (Matthew 13:21).

Even with YAHWEH's promise, some Believers lie down on the ice and condemn themselves to spiritual death. They refuse to keep moving. Making it to the marriage supper of Yahshua Messiah doesn't excite them anymore.

Cecil Mouland was kept alive by his determination to marry his sweetheart Jessie. True Believers, too, are determined to endure and be married at the greatest marriage ever: "Because the marriage of the Lamb came, and His wife prepared herself... 'Blessed are the ones having been called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" (Revelation 19:7-9).

Cecil Mouland returned to Doting Cove and married Jessie. He, Jesse Collins and 53 other men lived to tell the tale, but only because they refused to give up.

YAHWEH's people must likewise refuse to give up. We must avoid spiritual hypothermia. We must keep moving!

(NOTE From Elder Don) This is such an amazing true life story example for us today. As we are only just beginning to go into what Scripture calls the worst time the world will ever know, we must, as the people of Yahweh, build stamina and perseverance every day of our life.

THIS DOESN'T JUST HAPPEN! We must condition ourselves every day of our lives, having discipline in our lives to be praying, studying, fasting, and showing self-control in all avenues of our lives.

The Apostle Paul compared our lives as believers to a person running in a race, and to be a professional runner, you must practice every day, and condition yourself to be able to perform for the entire race.

Time is short! We must KEEP MOVING in the work of Yahweh and building Elohim Character and stamina in our lives.

Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart

By Don Esposito



The way that Yahweh created human beings is that they have instinctive characteristic traits, such as the will to live and survive, and the instinct of trying to avoid pain at all costs. But, most of what a human being considers normal and will think and do every day of his life is mostly from his environment, and his learned responses, through his parents, schools, jobs, friends, etc.

Understanding this fact greatly magnifies the impact that the Internet and social media have on the lives of most people on this planet. We are living in what the Bible calls the last days, and this is what was prophesied about people and the society that we live in today.

2Ti 3:1 But know this, that in the last days disastrous times will be upon us.

2Ti 3:2 For men will be **lovers of themselves**, lovers of money, braggarts, arrogant, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, **ungrateful**, wicked,

2Ti 3:3 without natural feeling, addicted to lust, slanderers, without self-control, savage, haters of good,

2Ti 3:4 traitors, hasty, boasters, **lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of Elohim**,

One could almost not believe that people and society could be this wicked, except for the fact that we are living in this horrific, prophesied world today. People are self-seeking, and arrogant, and extremely ungrateful. We live in a world where almost from birth, children are falsely indoctrinated to love self, and do what feels good, and that they should always take the credit for any good that may come out of their lives.

When, in reality, Scripture states the exact opposite!

Rom 3:10 According as it has been written, "There is none righteous, not even one!"

Rom 3:11 "There is not one understanding; there is not one seeking YAHWEH."

Rom 3:12 All turned away, they became worthless together, not one is doing goodness, not so much as one!"

Rom 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of YAHWEH,

Every human being who has ever lived (except Yahshua Messiah) has sinned and committed crimes that are worthy of death. That is the sad reality of the experiment called the human race. And yet, in this wicked end time society that we live in, people are conditioned to be arrogant, self-seeking, and never giving thanks to anyone, but self.

As first-fruit believers, preparing for rulership in the soon coming Kingdom of Yahweh, we need to block out the sadistic, ungrateful world around us, and truly be thankful to Yahweh in all things.

1Co 1:31 so that even as it has been written, "**He that glories, let him glory in YAHWEH.**"

Whatever you focus on becomes most real to you, and as true believers in Yahshua we need to allow His Spirit in us to recognize all the great blessings that Yahweh gives us in our life every day we are blessed to be alive.

Jer 1:4 Then the Word of YAHWEH was to me, saying,

Jer 1:5 I knew you before I formed you in the belly; and before you came out of the womb, I sanctified you. I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

The first thing that we should be thankful for every day of our life is that Yahweh, the Eternal Creator of the universe, actually knew us and wove us in our mother's womb before we were ever born. He chose us to be His children, and to love us, and to mold us, before we ever left the womb.

Yahweh also created the human being in such a wonderful, awesome way, and different than all His other living creatures of Creation. How often do we take this for granted? Look at the animal kingdom, which has to go around on all four legs. Or even worse, look at the snake family that actually has to crawl on their bellies.

Yet, Yahweh made us as human beings in His own image, with eyes to see, on two legs to be able to walk and run. He made us with knees that bend, so we can sit and rest. He made us with hands and joints with wrists and elbows to be able to turn, and hold our silverware to be able to not just eat, but to be able to enjoy our food. He gave us noses, to not only enjoy the taste of the food, but even to enjoy the smell of it.

He made us with fingers and toes to grasp and clamp what we need to hold on to, and to be able to touch and feel things that give us comfort, and also fingernails and toenails to protect our feet and hands from injury. He made us with earlobes to keep our equilibrium, and nose hair to filter out dirt when we breathe.

As humans, we may be a work in progress, but Yahweh thought of everything to make us the perfect bodies that we would need to live a fulfilled and happy life in the beautiful world He created, before mankind rejected it.

And most of all, He made us with a mind like His that can think and reason, and laugh and cry, and love Him and other human beings, as well as create such intricate things, as trains and boats, and even airplanes and computers.

The animal kingdom doesn't think and reason and decide to move to a different city due to air pollution and congestion. It simply acts with the instinctive parameters that Yahweh created them with. And that, too, is wonderful and amazing, such as how a bird is able to fly; but it doesn't compare with having a mind to think and reason, and to love Yahweh with all our hearts and souls, and to also love other human beings.

However, the greatest gift that Yahweh has given human beings (which is also the most neglected) is the gift to be grateful! To show Him how much we appreciate the wonderful things that He has blessed us with. I said whatever you focus on becomes most real to you, and the greatest gift in the world, which brings the most joy to us, is to openly give praise to Yahweh for every single last thing that He does in our life.

Act 20:35 I showed you all things, that working in this way we ought to help those being weak, and to remember the Words of the Master Yahshua, that He said, **It is more blessed to give than to receive.**

How true this scripture really is! It brings such happiness and joy to give thanks to Yahweh for all He does in our lives, and by extension to let that joy we have, through this thankful heart, allow us to give back to others who are also made in His image. To share food with the homeless, or a drink to a thirsty traveler, what a joy it is to be able to give to other humans in need, who are also made in the image of Elohim.

More people today are depressed than ever before, because they are self-focused, and only lovers of self. However, when we allow Yahweh's Spirit to fill us with a spirit of thankfulness in everything, it spreads to every avenue of our lives.

Self-focus only makes one unhappy, and judgmental toward his fellow man, and their mind is only filled with jealousy and self-pity that is a spiral cycle to nowhere.

Tit 1:15 Truly, all things are pure to the pure, **but nothing is pure to those being defiled and faithless, but even their mind and conscience has been defiled.**

But it is the grateful heart that sees the decrepit state that they came from, but also, they now see the glorious position that Yahweh has called them to, through faith in the blood of Yahshua for forgiveness of their sins. They allow Yahweh's Spirit to fight against their flesh, and to give thanks for everything, even their trials that are only purifying them to be better servants in the Kingdom of Yahweh.

Whatever you focus on becomes most real to you! So, what is your focus? Is it the glorious calling and life that Yahweh has called you to as a first fruit, spirit-begotten believer for His Kingdom? Or is it wallowing in self-pity, feeling sorry for yourself because you have blinded yourself to your sins and have never repented before Yahweh?

2Co 9:6 But remember this: **the one sowing sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one sowing generously will also reap generously.**

2Co 9:7 Each one as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or out of necessity, **for YAHWEH loves a cheerful giver.**

2Co 9:8 And **YAHWEH is able to make all grace to abound toward you**, that in everything, always having all self-sufficiency, you may abound to every good work;

Having a grateful heart doesn't just happen; **it must be sown in our minds every day of our lives** when we truly from a pure heart thank Yahweh continuously for each and every thing that happens to us daily. We thank Him for the good as well as the struggles, having the faith to know in the end, all things work for the good to those who love Yahweh and are called according to His purpose (Ro 8:28).

Having a grateful heart is not just a character trait, **but it is a MINDSET!** It is something that you must pray for, and then program yourself each day that no matter what happens that day, you will give Yahweh thanks for everything.

And it starts by knowing to the core of our being that we are corrupted, worthless sinners, and without His grace, and the wonderful sacrifice of Yahshua in our life, we are only waiting for our death penalty to come for the sins we have committed. But in His great love and mercy Yahweh has forgiven us, and given us a new life. This is true faith, and true love, and is also contagious to those around you, and is the only way to have true happiness.

This should be the core and foundation of our grateful heart to a loving Creator for everything He has done.

2Co 9:15 But **thanks be to YAHWEH for His unspeakable free gift.**

Col 1:12 So that you may joyfully give thanks to YAHWEH the Father, who has enlightened and made us a worthy inheritance of the saints,

Col 1:13 and **has delivered us out of the authority of darkness, and brought us into the kingdom of His beloved Son,**

Col 1:14 in whom **we have obtained salvation, and the forgiveness of sins;**

Heb 13:15 Then through Him let us offer up a sacrifice of praise to YAHWEH always, that is, the fruit of the lips, giving thanks to His name.

Psa 92:1 It is good to give thanks to YAHWEH, and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;

Psa 92:2 to **make Your mercy known in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night;**

1Th 5:18 **In everything give thanks**, for this is the will of YAHWEH in Messiah Yahshua toward you.

Woman...

Wife...

Widow...



Widowhood is a life stage that many women will have to face at some time. It helps to know what to expect.

Reprint Article By Joan C. Bogdanchik

The thought of becoming a widow makes most women cringe!

A girl dreams of becoming a woman, then a wife and mother, then a grandmother. But a widow? Never!

Interestingly enough, in a society where women generally outlive men, no real thought is given to preparing for what more than 10 million women in the United States alone now live in—widowhood. In a news article a majority of women complained that television, for example, doesn't adequately cover such topical issues as widowhood. Does this lack of information exist because the word *widow* in our minds is connected with death—and death is a subject we don't like to think about?

Widow has never been a desired word in any context. In a card game it is a hand or group of

cards not dealt to any player. In printing it is a word or group of words constituting less than a full line, generally considered to be typographically undesirable.

Yet how quickly a woman can pass from wife to widow! With her husband's last breath, the transition is complete.

Momentous changes

"And what relation are you to the deceased?" the mortician inquires.

"His wife," the bereaved solemnly intones.

"His *widow*," he writes, and the former happy wife has to face the sad fact that her exciting and productive life as her husband's wife and sweetheart has ended. It is now one of seemingly unbearable grief. Her life has suddenly taken a major overthrow. It appears crushed—she feels as dead inwardly as her husband is physically.

Shock and deeper pain than she has ever known well inside her. The world looks so artificial. Concerns that loomed so large pale into insignificance.

Major changes are ahead. She becomes numb with emotional paralysis. She has become what she never wanted to be—a widow. Weeping comes like a continual flood. It is essential.

With all her being she fights to bring herself under control. She is the only parent now.

Lost instantly are the physical privileges of marriage, and added also instantly, are multiplied responsibilities.

She is now, in a sense, both mother and father to her children. They need an explanation. They need comfort and love. Mommy must be ready to provide it. This is a facet of widowhood that must be faced squarely—and faced alone.

Explaining to Children

Death must now be explained. Feelings of extreme pain and loss must be handled. Mother must give reassurance to her children. She cannot protect them from this knowledge of death.

Death is hard for all of us, but the widow has to try to explain it without engulfing her children in her own grief.

She really doesn't want her children to have this knowledge—they are so young! They see and hear her weep, and this they must see. These are the emotions of life they are being exposed to.

As they see Mother weeping deeply over Daddy's death, they see their father's worth to his family and Mother's high tribute to him. In a family all share the experiences of the group. Now death, though unwelcomed, has entered. The life of that family is changed. Children cannot escape the reality of life and death.

She must hold her children close and talk about Daddy's death. She must be careful not to give them too much information at once, depending on their age. Day by day, more will be added as family discussions go on. This helps bring the fragmented family together in their affliction.

They must develop a plan of action and work on it. They must continue living.

A child reacts to grief differently than an adult. Some children will show differences in behavior. Remember, their security has been shaken.

Mother must reassure her family that they will not be abandoned, as some children fear. Daddy is gone. Could not the same happen to Mother?

She must talk to her children and comfort them. The widow's words will begin to help herself.

Under her own personal pressure, the responsibility is great. But Yahweh never gives us more than we can bear, even though for some time it may seem so. Staying close to Him in constant prayer is basic. The Scriptures are a widow's close companion. Yahweh, through them, gives her strength to carry on.

Physically, her most intimate confidant, her husband, who would know how to comfort her in such a situation, is gone. The widow needs to talk to someone who understands and will listen to her for extended periods of time. But rare is the person who can offer more than snatches of time for this.

If such a real confidant is not available (and it must be someone who understands), the widow will often find that writing down her thoughts and feelings genuinely helps. She wants to talk about her husband. Many people do not realize this, and become uncomfortable when she does.

The Financial Aspect

Beside the emotional turmoil, the widow must face financial questions. Who is going to pay for the rent, the food, the clothing and the multitude of other expenses the family faces? In many, many cases, Mother now will—it has fallen her lot! She was the dependent. She is now the depended upon.

Working through bereavement (and it must be worked at—the hardest work a widow has to do), she must also work at comforting her family while working physically to provide for it.

She returns to the work force or, in many cases, enters it for the first time, usually at much lower wages than her late husband's. She treks home exhausted from grieving and from her job.

Communication with government agencies becomes necessary. In the United States, the Social Security office and the Veteran's Administration can provide valuable assistance for the children of a woman now financially alone.

And, in addition to financial considerations, other responsibilities must be kept up: Shopping must be done, dinner must be prepared, the house must be cleaned, the clothes laundered and set out. She's exhausted, but ...

What about the Children?

Children can help the widow. They are also a tremendous responsibility that is now all hers alone.

Rearing children in this world is a great responsibility even when both parents are

involved, helping and encouraging each other. Now the widow must do it alone.

But it is not an impossible situation. Children who lose one or the other parent can and do develop into well-balanced, successful individuals. (Two of America's greatest presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, lost parents to death during their formative years.)

Helping children become balanced begins in the pattern set by both parents before the death of one of them, and by the remaining parent's guidance and example thereafter. The early years in a child's life set the stage for how the child will handle future life experiences.

After the death it is best to stay put, keeping the rest of your child's life the same, as it was, as much as possible, when father was alive. The security of the same house, if monetarily possible, the same neighborhood and the same school help immediately after the death.

A widow soon learns there is no place to run to, anyway. Whether the child realizes it or not, he or she is maturing through this sobering situation. A child can become more dependable and responsible. Death has touched his or her life. It can add a deeper understanding to living. The child can grow when the remaining parent makes a stable home. He or she contributes to the whole—is not merely a recipient. Yahshua, as the firstborn, had this responsibility when Joseph died.

A parent, though now alone, really is not "single." She cannot, and does not, return to what she was before she was married. She has all the responsibilities of marriage. She must see to her children's spiritual, physical, mental, and social development.

Voraciously devouring YAHWEH'S Word at this time gives the widow the ability to cope—and hope. She finds that YAHWEH is the Elohim of the widow and the Father of the fatherless. Her reliance is now on YAHWEH. Her husband is asleep, awaiting the resurrection.

The resurrection! The hope of the future! This is the vital reality that gives the widow strength. She *will* see her husband again. The hopes and dreams for their children that they mapped out early in their marriage will be viewed together in later time.

What will happen to their children? Now one parent is left to see the results worked out. The bereaved has no power to change the situation. She has to come to embrace it. She has to.

Accepting Responsibilities

Acceptance may come slowly. Grief and shock may hinder it, but it must come. Then, the continuation of their children's development may properly resume.

The family becomes close, unified by the common enemy—death. Children, often more resilient than their elders, suddenly emerge with surprising strength, and offer positive, loving encouragement to their remaining parent. The strong, inner desire for life goes on. It is perpetuated by children. Their attitude can greatly inspire the mother, who may feel her life has ended along with her husband's.

Now all the family must work together—helping, inspiring and encouraging each other. It takes time for grief to lighten. Day after day must be experienced and built upon, and it is not always a smooth path. The widow will find that setbacks will occur over what to others would be insignificant occurrences.

A stranger wearing her husband's brand of after-shave passes her in the mall. A song that meant so much in courtship days wafts through the supermarket. She finds that she has set her husband's place at the table—or she rushes to tell him of an event that has just happened and then realizes...!

These are the things she must fight. The weeping returns. Then she picks up. She starts again, though her heart is breaking.

The family has worked harmoniously in the past. It must now, too, with one vital member absent. The others must recall the goals of the family and press on to achieve. Together they must unify and conquer this great family trial.

The Needs of Children

Though she cannot physically be both father and mother, the widow must be responsible and reliable. It is to be hoped she has known her husband well enough to know his outlook on talking to, training, and instructing their children.

She must oversee their academic growth. She must help them mix with their peers, some of whom will look at her children as different at first. She must be sure they have as much contact as possible with grandparents, uncles, and teachers who can help supply the missing influence of their father in their lives.

Her children will be gaining balance by these necessary contacts. Just as both parents must control the environment of their offspring as much as possible, so must the only parent.

But now she has even more to watch for.

The widow must plan social development for her children. They must grow in happy times. She's the lone hostess now as she invites others to her home, as well as the sole parent and disciplinarian. She must continually fight thoughts of self-pity as she deals with people whose lives continue as before while hers is so changed.

Tending to want to relax rules of child rearing while grieving, a widow must work at not doing so. The guidelines the family had must not slip. She must display strength. The children should have long before learned to respond to the authority of both parents. Where would she be now in this situation if that were not the case?

A New Life

The widow must learn to plan and balance her time for all that is now on her shoulders. She must set the family budget, write the checks, keep the family car in working order. Children must be transported to functions. Appointments must be kept. There are a myriad of other needs. Mother must now handle all of them.

And she needs time just to be with her children, to play with them, talk to them and shower them with love.

While a widow is supplying a social life for her children, she will find that hers is changed. She often will not be included in activities that she and her husband were in before. Living as a wife, she was established. Now she must make a new life as a widow.

The widow will find that looking at the beauty of creation, meditating and pondering on the purpose of YAHWEH, will help her reduce the excess tensions that may build up.

A widow must in her busy schedule try to find ways of relaxing. Walking, walking, walking is one of the best physical releases of tension.

As her children grow, a widow must instruct her sons through boyhood and adolescence. She must provide the "father and son" talks, carrying out what she has learned from her husband, coupled with YAHWEH's way of life. She must seek out this information if she has not known it. And she must not be afraid of it! A woman speaks from the opposite vantage point of a man—a wise son will heed.

Of note, too, is how often, when the Bible says a man was successful, his mother is mentioned. Mothers have a tremendous influence on their children. As the old saying goes, "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world."

The widow's life is busy indeed. At the same time she is developing her children, she must not overlook her need for interests outside of the home. Eventually her children will be on their own and so will she.

The widow feels new emotions as different milestones of growth take place in her children's lives. She must go through these emotions alone, while thoughts of her husband flood her mind, but on she goes. She is making it.

A Message to Women

What can a woman learn from reading this—that is, if she's had the courage to read this far, since no woman wants to even contemplate becoming a widow?

She can learn to prepare for life in her formative years—and prepare well. She should become educated, building skills to use in her family, with others, and in life in general. She must develop deep reserves of inner strength and quiet calm. She should develop vision for the future, and though she may never be a widow, she should know life has other challenges, turns, trials. Most of all, she needs to make sure her spiritual life with Yahweh is strong.

She should become thrifty, not throwing away money on unnecessary extravagances frequently, but buying necessities for family living. She should learn to care for possessions.

When she marries, she should learn to love her husband and children. They are most precious gifts of YAHWEH, given to her for so few precious years. She should cherish these wonderful gifts and enjoy every day and every minute. She shouldn't let little insignificant problems get to her, but work them out and enjoy!

Marriage to the right person is a high physical pleasure. She should rejoice with the husband of her youth and enjoy all that YAHWEH has given her in this life. She should continually thank YAHWEH for her husband, his love, tender care, and wonderful qualities—be thankful that he is there to love, comfort, encourage, inspire, provide for, protect, and make the final decisions.

Should a woman become widowed, the wonderful memory of her husband, his qualities of tenderness, unending love and devotion will far supersede physical death.

The Kingdom of YAHWEH is ahead! Death and sorrow will be forgotten once and for all! Widowhood is a station of life for which no place will then be found. Over this, no former widow will grieve.

ASK THE AMISH



Ask The Amish is a section of the Remnant's Walk with reprint articles and letters from the Amish community from a publication called "Family Life", which started back in 1967.

Some original authors are listed in the publication, some are not. If there is an author listed, they would be listed at the end of the article with an original publishing date. Some Amish chose not to put their names on articles they write.

Machinery, Family and Community

Today there are many things to consider in deciding whether a piece of machinery is acceptable to our way of living. Most of the plain churches feel they want to stay with horsepower as much as they can. They can have ample reason to shy away from modern machinery that seems to lead down a one-way street, on a road we don't want to travel.

It's the responsibility of the congregation to decide if something is detrimental to the congregation. If we feel it is, we must take our stand against it the same as we do against such things as TV. The problem is that it's not always such a clear-cut matter. Circumstances can vary in different communities. Also, our understanding is not perfect: some people and some churches consider a certain thing harmful, while others don't see it as a threat.

We ought to take a critical look before accepting every new invention that comes along. In the long run, how will it affect the family farm? Will it help to make more use of horsepower and family labor on the farm? Will it encourage working together as a family unit and as a community to help each-other? Or will we have so much money invested in expensive equipment that it may become necessary to take a job off the farm to pay for it?

These things ought to be taken into careful consideration as to whether they are practical to our way of living. This should be of more importance than just the dollar signs. After all, riches are fleeting and elusive, and running after them can take us into territory where we have no business being. (D. Wagler, 6-90)

Travelling Time

Shallow reasoning has been used by people who decided it didn't make sense to spend an hour going to town in a buggy, when they could go the same distance by car in ten minutes. "Why," such people have reasoned, "if we had a car, we wouldn't spend nearly as much time on the road, and could be at home with the family more."

By taking one single trip to town and figuring how much longer it would take by buggy, the above conclusion sounds reasonable. But that matter isn't that simple. Instead of spending less time on the road, people who switch to motorized transportation soon realize they are on the road more than before. Since it's easier to go to town, they tend to go more often and for smaller needs. They soon begin to shop and visit places farther than home. It's just as easy to drive fifty miles, as it used to be to drive five, and that's exactly what they do. So, they end up spending more time on the road than before. ("Views and Values", E. Stoll.)

Telephones: The Choice of Two Evils

"I wonder which is the worst, anyway?" Fred Hostetler muttered to himself as he sat down at the supper table.

"Worst of what?" his wife, Saloma, asked as she stirred a pinch of salt into the soup.

"I mean, which way would be the worst, to have a phone of our own, or to be continually pestering our neighbors to use theirs?"

"Surely you don't think we should get telephones?" Saloma asked as a frown crossed her face. "Our people have never had them, you wouldn't want to change the *Ordnung* now, would you?"

"No, I wouldn't," Fred answered firmly. "But just the same, I still can't help wondering sometimes which would be the worst. Did you know that they allowed telephones over in the Concordia settlement?"

"You mean where Atlee Kauffman moved? I knew they were more liberal in some things, but I never thought they would allow telephones."

"They figured it would be a better light to the world to have telephones, than to be bothering their neighbors to use theirs."

"But couldn't they explain why we don't have telephones?"

"I guess so, but I've found it's harder to explain that to someone than it is to explain why we don't have cars or radios or something like that", Fred said. "Atlee wrote that the phones are to be allowed strictly for business and emergency only, no gossiping or unnecessary calling."

About five years later, Fred Hostetler was planning a trip to visit close relatives in Missouri. "Why don't we stop at Concordia and visit Atlee Kauffman?" Fred asked

The Kauffmans were glad to see their old neighbors and welcomed them warmly. "You just come in and sit down. You can visit until dinner is ready," Ruby said.

Fred went out to see Atlee, who was remodeling the cow stable. As the men walked from the barn to the pasture, a shrill voice came from the house, "Dad-dy! Telephone!"

When Atlee returned, he grumbled, "Those seed-corn agents can sure be a nuisance. I told him the other day I'd let him know if I wanted to order anything from him, but he insists on calling me every few days." After showing Fred around the farm a bit, Atlee said, "We may just as well go in. Dinner should be ready in an hour."

They washed up and went to sit down in the living room. Fred thought he heard a conversation going on, and then saw Ruby was talking on the telephone. As the men came in the room, she was saying, "Well, I'll have to go now. We've got company for dinner. Thanks for calling. I'll call you back later."

They sat down to visit, and Atlee started telling them how his team of horses ran away the summer before. "We let them stand in the hay field, and they got scared of the baler. Up the lane they went toward home as fast as they could go, until they got to that tree in the lane. Then one horse went around one side of the tree, and the other one went on the other side, and the wagon—"

"Rrrrrrr!" The ring of the phone interrupted the story. Atlee came back and took up the conversation where he had left off. After some time, the phone rang again. Atlee answered it: "Yes, yes. Who? Minerva? Yes, she's here."

About this time the oldest daughter came flying into the room and grabbed the receiver. From the kitchen came the voice of Ruby as she lamented, "Minerva wouldn't have to get so excited every time the phone rings. Now she went and spilled the corn starch all over the worktable. Those Worner girls have a bad habit of calling her anytime of the day." Fred and Atlee got back into their conversation. At 11:30, Ruby came into the room picked up the receiver and started dialing. "Hello, Patty. This is me. I hate to bother you, but right now I just discovered we're plum out of sugar. We forgot to get some the other day when we were in town. We need some to make the frosting on the cake."

By the time dinner was ready, it was just past 12:00. Ruby had fixed a big meal and everyone was hungry. As the family sat down to the table, everyone bowed their heads to give thanks to the Almighty Father in heaven for His goodness in providing such a bounteous meal. Just as everyone folded their hands and silently bowed their heads, there was a loud noise. "Rrrrrrr!" The phone was urgently ringing... As the big greyhound bus pulled into the station, the Hostellers hastily bade goodbye to their friends. Soon, they were on their last stretch of their journey heading home.

"Are you still wondering what it would be like to have a telephone in the house?" Saloma asked. Fred almost had to smile as he answered. "Well, now I know what it could be like, but that's not saying it would have to be like that. I don't think everyone with a telephone has as much going on as the Kauffmans did."

"That could be," Saloma agreed. "But actually, you only saw half of it. In the afternoon when you and Atlee went over to visit old Sam Miller, the phone was as busy as ever. One time, Ruby called Allen Kauffman's wife to ask how much soda she puts in her coconut cookies. Then, later in the afternoon she called her sister to ask what number thread she uses to sew that blue double-knit material for a dress. That time she talked for about a half hour...and Minerva, I think she called up her friends several times during the afternoon. She seems to have friends of all kinds. Are you still unable to answer your question?"

"It looks to me like that would be making a choice between two evils, and I don't think it's necessary to do either one. What I had in mind was the way they did it out in Missouri, but I don't believe that's the perfect answer either."

"How do they do it there?"

"They ask the telephone company to put a phone at the schoolhouse. It's not a large community there, and they can go to the schoolhouse to do their calling. Then they don't have to bother their neighbors so much. They seem to think it's working alright, and as far as not bothering their neighbors so much, apparently it is. But I'm afraid there's another danger they may not realize."

"What's that?"

"I'm afraid they're using the phone more than they have to," Fred said. "By planning their business out ahead, they could often get along without using the phone as they do now. From what I saw in Missouri, I think they could have done a lot of their business by mail, such as ordering feed, and so on."

"But wouldn't it be handier to do it by phone?"

"Yes, it would be, and sometimes it is about the only way it can be done," Fred agreed. "But a lot of other things would be handy, too. What I was wondering is, **Will their children be able to see the danger in having these things, which are so handy, if the parents make use of them so much as they do?**"

"I guess there's a danger any way you do it," Saloma said. "But do you mean to say that out there in Missouri, they never have to bother neighbors?"

"I never said that," Fred answered. "There will still be emergencies, such as someone getting hurt, when they want to get help as soon as possible. I don't think their neighbors object to using their phones at times like that. It's the idea of bothering them continually and for things that don't look necessary to them that's what gets on their nerves."

"I don't think I'd appreciate that myself," Saloma responded.

"I guess not," Fred laughed. "Especially if they tracked their dirty boots over your nice clean floor right after you had done the Saturday cleaning!" (2-76)

Voting

I don't feel Christians should take part in voting for those who seek government office. If we do vote for such persons, and help them get into office, we would also indirectly be responsible for their deeds, such as acts of war and so forth. We ought to obey Yahweh rather than man [Acts 5:29].

The Bible does teach us to pray for those who rule over us [1Tim 2:1-2]. We shouldn't take part in worldly affairs. This, I believe, can lead to the downfall of our plain churches.

One may perhaps argue that Christians who live in America or Canada, live in a democracy, a free country, and hence are duty-bound to take part in the voting process and otherwise support such a government system. Our government does indeed protect and defend our right to worship YHWH freely, and in whatever manner we wish. However, as good as any country may be to live in, both Canadian and American systems are still much part of this world. And in Jacob 1:27, we read, an undefiled religion, means to keep oneself unspotted from the world. Just because a great many Christians do participate in the voting process, doesn't necessarily make it right. The Scriptures nowhere encourages one to take part in the governmental system that is part of the world. And in voting, one would in a small way be doing this. ("What Do You Think?")

POSITIVE CHILD TRAINING



Rearing a ‘Can Do’ Child

Reprint Article By Dexter H. Faulkner

I am shocked at the large number of books available on self-esteem. It seems many people today think they have low self-esteem, when in reality it is low self-confidence. Psychologists and self-help experts have capitalized on the average person’s feelings of inferiority. What is self-confidence? Is it important? Should you try to give your children self-confidence? **Confidence** means to feel secure in doing something. Self-confidence, for a believer means having a positive, yet balanced, view of yourself. It doesn’t mean vanity, self-centeredness or thinking you are better than someone else. It means seeing yourself clearly, faults and all. And it is not dependent on outside factors, but comes from within. Humans are Yahweh’s greatest creation—with a potential far beyond our imagination. We are created in Yahweh’s image (Genesis 1:26-27), and our ultimate purpose is to be born into His family! But we need to realize, that without Yahweh we would be nothing and we’d be going nowhere. Why do your children need self-confidence? Self-confidence is important in motivating children to do their best, try new things, and resist pressures from other people to do wrong, and to feel good about themselves. A child with low self-confidence feels inferior, and self-conscious and lacks courage.

He will carry those negative feelings into adulthood, and they’ll be hard to overcome. Low self-confidence is linked to teenage pregnancy, crime and drug addiction. On the other hand, a child with high self-confidence will grow to be a high achiever, and a secure, confident happy person. Children with proper self-confidence will not be afraid of failure, because their self-confidence doesn’t rest on what they can do or what honors they can achieve. It’s never too late to build confidence and self-confidence in your child. You can help your child determine the way he thinks of himself. We are what we think (Proverbs 23:7)—whether positively or negatively—and thus we set our course for success or failure.

Do your children have it? How does your child perceive himself? Listen for the phrases, “I can’t”, “It’s too hard”, and “Nobody likes me”. They could indicate that your child needs a boost in self-confidence. Here are key ways to encourage healthy self-confidence in your children.

- **Give your children unconditional love.** Feeling loved and accepted is a deep intense need Yahweh has created in us. We need it to love ourselves and others. Love your children, make them feel they are important to you. There is no substitute for your time as a way to show them you love them. Don't be there just for the big events like graduations, recitals, championship games and so on. Spend time playing with your children every day.
- **Respect your children.** Remember, that as a creation of Yahweh, you, and all people deserve respect. Don't tolerate disrespect from them and treat them with respect as well. When you discipline your children, do so privately. Don't punish children in front of others, or belittle or humiliate them when punishing them. Make sure you praise them when they deserve praise and encourage their efforts to change. Noticing their behavior only when they are bad will make them feel unloved.
- **Be a positive thinker.** Parents need to set the example of positive thinking. Children are sensitive to positive and negative attitudes around them. Yahweh gives us instruction to counteract our tendency to worry and look at life negatively. We are to dwell on the positive things (Philippians 4:8). In fact, He commands us not to worry (Mathew 6:25-34). Help your child have a 'can do' approach, by showing them the source of their strength and abilities. Teach your children that Yahweh is their helper and that He WILL give them comfort and strength. Let "I can do all things through Messiah, the One giving me strength" (Philippians 4:13) be their motto.
- **Help your child have high standards and reach goals.** Children are curious and want to explore. Some parents are so over-protective and fearful, their children are not free to do things that will build their self-confidence. Parents need to let their children seek new experiences, within reason, so children can learn about their capabilities and limitations. Facing and overcoming setback teaches children that they can succeed, even if they face challenges along the way.

Also, help your children set realistic goals. You know your children's strong and weak points, and can help them avoid discouragement if the goal is unreachable. Help them learn what their strengths and weaknesses are by giving them new opportunities to learn new skills at an early age—for example, music lessons, sports, drawing or cooking. Don't try to pattern your children after *your* talents and interests, but direct them in the areas which *they* show interest and aptitude. Encourage your child for the little events, like tying his or her shoelaces. Out of many little experiences of mastery, a child builds self-confidence. Teach compensation—that is, counterbalancing weaknesses by capitalizing on strengths, it is important you see your child's strengths.

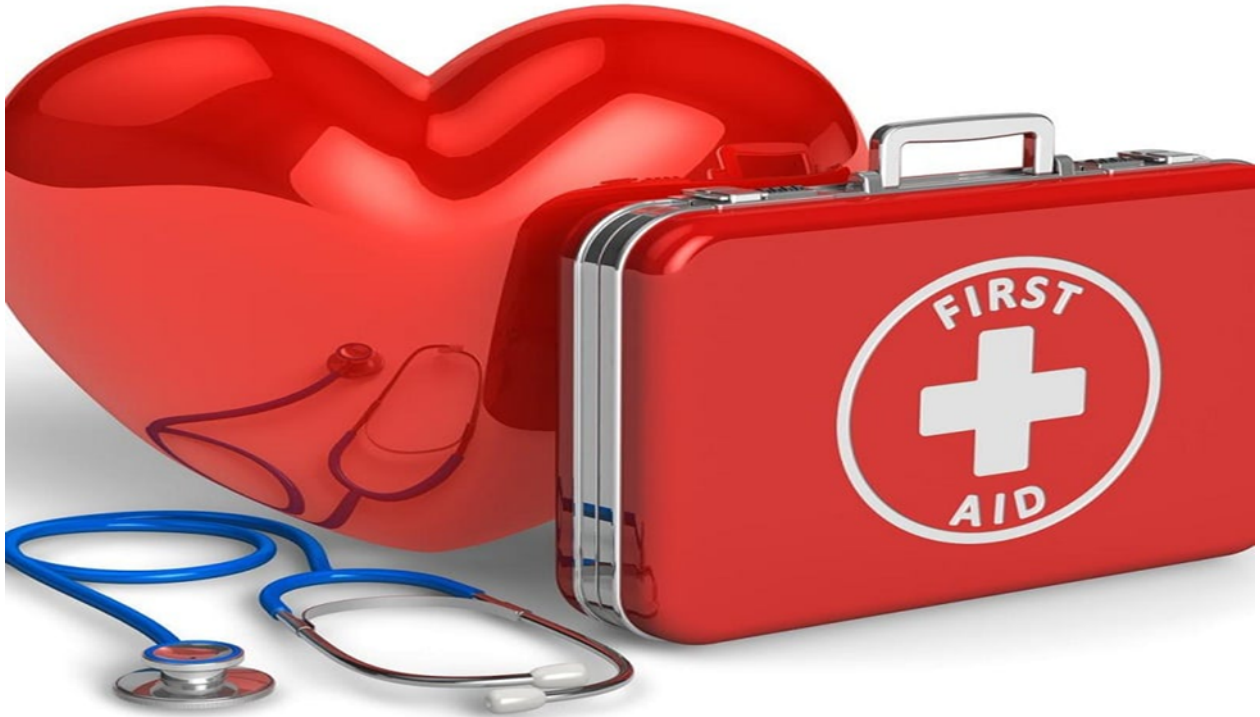
Certain strengths are readily recognized in some children, like the ability to sing, play the piano or handle a basketball. Other talents aren't as noticeable, like being a good listener, having sensitivity to other people's feelings, and the ability to encourage others. Search out all possibilities with your child.

Children are impressionable

While your child is learning, don't give him negative nicknames, or label him as slow, clumsy, or dumb. Children will believe the things you say about them. Also don't let your children label themselves negatively. Here is where Colossians 3:21 comes into play. "Fathers[and mothers], do not provoke your children, that they may not be discouraged." Parents can create deep, lifelong depressions by being insensitive, and uncaring, in the tenderest years. Help your children see the worlds awards, recognition and praise are not the most important things in life. Remind them that they are still worthy, even if they are not No.1. No one wins every race. Teach your children true values.

Rearing 'can do' children. You'll notice I titled this article, "Rearing a Can-Do Child," not raising, which is a popular term. Being an old farm boy, I still firmly believe you raise cattle, and as a conscientious parent, you rear your children. Self-confidence must be nurtured and built over time with love and diligence. Parents, rear your children to have self-confidence. Point them to a healthy balanced view of themselves.

First Aid For Congregational Love



Our greatest tests as Disciples are just ahead now! Here's how to protect and promote the love we should have for one another.

Reprint Article by John Halford

“Daddy,” asked my daughter, “what do you do when two of your best friends don’t like each other?”

My daughter was faced with a dilemma. Here were two people, both of whom she liked. If she was with one or the other, everything was fine. But whenever the three of them were all together, tension and hostility filled the air. It really put my daughter in a difficult position.

If you think about it, isn’t that just how Yahshua Messiah must feel sometimes?

Yahshua loves His people—true Disciples—His Congregation—every last one of us. He calls us His friends (John 15:14). He eagerly looks forward to having us spend eternity together with Him. He commands us to learn to get along now—He wants the people in His Congregation to grow in

an atmosphere of harmony and peace. Yahshua wants His friends to be friendly with each other.

Most of the time we are this way, as we should be. Human beings cannot solve difficulties and have proper relationships between themselves without the power of Yahweh’s Holy Spirit. But we, if we are converted disciples, have the Holy Spirit. We are without excuse. The fights, quarrels, resentments and hatreds typical of human nature belong in our past—they should not be part of our lives now.

“For we also once were senseless, disobedient, being led astray, slaving for various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hated, and hating one another” (Titus 3:3).

A Saturday-night visit to the emergency ward of a big-city hospital brought the truth of this scripture home to me forcibly.

Saturday night, a doctor explained, was a bad time in the emergency room. Several wounded people were in the waiting room, and most of them had been stabbed, punched, battered or shot.

All needed patching up or stitching together and, in some cases, even major surgery was required. It was a sad situation! Such are the fruits of people who are “living in malice and envy, hatred, and hating one another.”

Offenses among Believers

Yahweh’s people generally aren’t this way. We don’t physically assault each other, intentionally wounding other parts of Messiah’s Body.

But offenses do come, as Messiah warned they would (Matt. 18:7). We aren’t perfect yet. Even if we don’t cause major physical wounds, we still do thoughtless, carnal things that cause emotional cuts and bruises on the Body of Messiah.

But even small cuts and scratches can become infected and cause serious problems. Anybody who has traveled in some of the world’s poorer countries where standards of cleanliness aren’t high knows how important it is to carry a first-aid kit.

You don’t need much—some antiseptic, a bottle of lotion, some bandages—just enough to protect yourself from sunburn and to quickly clean and cover small scratches or cuts before infection can get in and spread throughout the body.

Each little wound left exposed to a hostile environment can cause serious poisoning—and even kill.

It’s the same way with a disciple’s love. A small offense, a minor quarrel between brethren can fester and spread, until eventually, eternal lives are endangered. But some simple spiritual “*first aid*” will prevent problems from becoming too serious.

In His Word, Yahweh has given us several tried and tested remedies that will quickly heal the problems that sometimes flare up among us. Some, like suntan lotion, can help prevent injury. Others, like antiseptic solution and bandages, will cleanse and cover a wound before infection can spread.

Let’s open up the spiritual first-aid box—the Bible—and see what is in there.

Apply first aid promptly

The first thing to remember about first aid is that it should be applied promptly. A wound should not be left untreated any longer than necessary.

Yahshua made this clear in the Sermon on the Mount: “Then if you offer your gift on the altar, and remember there that your brother has a grudge against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go. First, be reconciled to your brother, and then coming, offer your gift” (Matt. 5:23-24).

Today we don’t bring gifts to altars. But it is easy to see the principle. Let’s not fool ourselves—we can’t carry on a relationship with Yahweh and ignore the fact that we have caused offense and hurt to someone else.

We should by all means pray about the problem to get in the right attitude. We need the help of Yahweh’s Spirit to be able to say: “*I am sorry. I was wrong.*” But having done that, we must get up and solve the problem.

Messiah’s instruction implies that we should do something about the problem right away—make a phone call, write a note, pay a visit—get it straightened out. If we tell the one we have offended that we are sorry and try to relieve the tension between two friends, then Yahweh will be eager to accept us both.

We shouldn’t talk ourselves out of trying to be reconciled. Nor should we delay. Paul warned, “Let not the sun go down upon your wrath” (Eph. 4:26). The Phillips translation puts it, “Never go to bed angry.”

Go to your brother

But what if our brother won’t be reconciled? Messiah gave us a first-aid remedy for this, too.

“And if your brother with you is at fault, go rebuke him, between you and him alone: if he listens to you, you have won your brother” (Matt. 18:15).

If we would just do this, probably 90 percent of all our quarrels and hard feelings would be cleared up at the outset. Yet we all seem to want to avoid using this simple remedy.

Sure, it’s hard, and it’s humbling. There is even a risk that we won’t be received and that matters will get worse. But that seldom happens.

What usually happens is that the offended and offending parties will quickly make up, feeling rather ashamed of themselves. They will end up with a much better understanding of each other, and their friendship will be deepened and strengthened.

And if our brother will not hear us?

“But if he does not hear, take one or two more with you, “so that on the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established (verse 16).

In the unlikely event that the other person won't accept us, we should take with us one or, at most, two other members, and try again.

This will probably work. The other person will see that we are serious. Also, there will then be one or two witnesses to attest to the fact that we have tried to make up. It will no longer be just our word against his.

Note that the quarrel still does not need to be public knowledge. The instruction does not say to “spread the problem all around and get a whole group of people on your side, then pick your two most ardent supporters and once again besiege the offender.” Doing so would be tantamount to starting a civil war in Yahweh's Congregation.

But what if the offended or offending person still won't be reconciled? “And if he shall neglect to hear them [us and our witnesses], tell it unto the Congregation” (verse 17). Obviously, a serious problem is brewing—one that may go deeper than the superficial wound we are trying to treat with first aid. Better get help from the experts—**go and tell the ministry!**

From then on, the problem is out of our hands except that we should continue to pray about it. The minister may have to take serious disciplinary action, even going to the extreme of putting the unforgiving member out of the Congregation (verse 17).

But most quarrels among brethren never get this far. Most of the time, going to our brother is enough. Messiah's Congregation is a healthy body—easily able to fight off infection, if the infection is treated promptly.

Personality conflicts

A physical first-aid kit usually contains something to prevent chafing and blisters, such as from a shoe that's too tight.

Personality conflicts in Yahweh's Congregation are like blisters. Some people just seem to rub each other the wrong way.

Our spiritual first-aid kit contains two items to help in case of these spiritual blisters. These items are labeled “Forbear” and “Don't judge.”

Forbear means “to tolerate,” “put up with” and “be patient with.” “Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against any; even as Messiah forgave you, so also you should forgive” (Col. 3:13).

Rather than reacting, we should overlook the things others do that annoy us.

If anyone is entitled to bear a few grudges, Yahshua Messiah is. Our sins put Him to death—our sickness and carelessness with our health caused Him to have to undergo a terrible beating. But Messiah has totally forgiven us and bears no grudges.

How is it that Yahweh can overlook great offenses without bearing grudges or seeking revenge, and yet we cannot?

Just as we are not anxious to hurt our children or see them injured, even when they seem to be “looking for trouble,” so Yahweh also, as a loving Father pities His children (Ps. 103:13).

Although He will not put up with rebellion and lack of effort forever (verse 9), He is not anxious to punish (verse 10). If a person's overall motivation is right, Yahweh will be patient, longsuffering and forbearing. The way we act must often irritate Him, but He looks on the intent of the heart.

Human beings find it hard to do this. Without Yahweh's Spirit leading us in our personal relationships, we judge by what we see—or what we think we see. But our vision is often obscured.

Seeing the problem clearly

“But why do you see the twig that is in the eye of your brother, but do not see the log in your own eye?” asked Yahshua (Matt. 7:3). “Or how will you say to your brother, Allow me to cast out the twig from your eye; and behold, the log is in your eye?” (verse 4).

Yahshua, of course, was using an analogy. But if we did really have a piece of timber sticking out of our eye, would we trust our vision driving or even crossing the road? No—we couldn't see straight.

The beam typifies a self-righteous, super-critical but grossly distorted point of view. We are all subject to it. We evaluate others too harshly, and tend to see not a person with a problem, but a person as a problem. We say: "He's so stubborn." "She's too fearful." "They're so selfish."

Stubborn, fearful, selfish. These are serious problems that need drastic remedies, for they could keep a person out of Yahweh's Kingdom. But are we sure we have seen the problem clearly?

"Hypocrite," said Yahshua, "first remove the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the twig out of the eye of your brother" (verse 5). The Bible teaches us that when we judge a person, it is possible that we are doing the same thing ourselves (Rom. 2:1).

In other words, we see our own sins more clearly in other people. (Our spiritual first-aid kit had better have a mirror.)

Maybe, when we have gotten the beam out of our eye, we will see more clearly the other person's problem. And perhaps, after glancing in the mirror and seeing ourself with the same problem, we will be more anxious to give the other person the benefit of the doubt. Instead of viewing others with a spirit of judging and criticism, we will see them with empathy and compassion.

Maybe we will see the man we at one time thought was stubborn, was actually just being persistent. We will realize that the lady we saw as fearful, is really just cautious. That couple we thought were selfish will appear as good examples of frugality.

But maybe there is a bit of a mote in our brother's eye. Then we will be able to see it clearly. The Bible says to restore such a one in meekness, aware that we can, and probably do, make the same mistakes (Gal. 6:1).

We should always be careful about criticizing others. Sometimes, a problem is just none of our business. We shouldn't appoint ourself to go around "restoring" people.

"Who are you judging another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. But he will stand, for his master is able to make him stand" (Rom. 14:4).

The lesson is that we shouldn't go around meddling in every problem we see. A first-aid kit, in the hands of a hypochondriac, does more harm than good.

First aid saves lives

But, properly used, our spiritual first-aid kit can save much suffering and hurt for the Body of Messiah.

Today, Messiah's Body—the Congregation—must live in the very hostile and unclean environment of this world. The world is getting worse all the time.

Satan, knowing his time is short, is stepping up his efforts to poison the atmosphere, spiritually and physically. Paul prophesied that the last days of this age would be "disastrous times" when men and women would exist "without natural feeling" (II Tim. 3:1, 3).

In a time like this, the little cuts and bruises we occasionally inflict on one another can become inflamed and infected. Little grievances become major offenses, and smoldering dislike can be easily whipped into the flames of hatred.

"And then, many will be offended, and they will deliver up one another, and will hate one another" (Matt. 24:10).

The greatest tests of our love for one another as disciples are just ahead. We must learn now to keep that love sound and healthy, free of infection and threat of disease.

Discipleship first aid saves lives—eternal lives.

(Note From Elder Don)

This article is so practical. It is amazing that people come into the congregation because they are convicted that it is the truth. And when they join the congregation, they are willing to go through great loss, and maybe even the loss of jobs or family.

Yet many times they will leave the congregation not over doctrine, but over a dispute with another brother or sister. They will literally lose their eternal life in some cases, simply because they were offended.

As the Kingdom of Yahweh grows closer and closer, we need to be maturing and not letting disputes between brethren affect our spiritual life, and keep our eye on the great goal of the Kingdom and Eternal Life.



Answers to your Questions

Q) Rev 14:9~11 footnote says that receivers of the mark of beast will go to lake of fire, but to me it reads as if they will be tormented forever and ever and have no rest day and night? Can you explain?

A) Yes, Scripture states that those who take the mark will be tormented by fire and brimstone (Lake of Fire). Then it states in the next verse that "the smoke of their torment will rise forever." This is a Hebrew idiom meaning that the punishment is final or unchangeable. The same phraseology is used for Sodom, and the smoke of Sodom going forever, and we know that today Sodom is not burning, but its punishment is unchangeable.

Q) What happens after you die? What is left on earth?

A) The soul and spirit are two different things.

Gen 2:7 And YAHWEH Elohim formed the man from the dust of the ground, and blew into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living soul.

Yahweh's Spirit is what gives life, as He is eternal by His one Spirit, and once He breathed this Spirit of life into man (made out of dirt), man became a living soul. A soul is the life that one possesses with the spirit from Yahweh.

Since the Spirit of Yahweh is eternal, but the mortal soul of a human is not, when a person dies the eternal Spirit that gave him life goes back to Yahweh who gave it, until the resurrection, when the spirit will come back into man and to those who are believers; they will be given eternal life. The body has no consciousness while dead, and is sleeping in the earth, waiting for the resurrection to happen.

Ecc 3:21 Who knows the spirit of the sons of the man, whether it goes upward; and the spirit of the beast, whether it goes downward to the earth?

Ecc 12:7 then the dust shall return to the earth as it was, and the spirit shall return to The Elohim who gave it.

1Th 4:13 But I want you to know, my brethren, concerning those who sleep, that you should not grieve, as the rest do who have not hope.

1Th 4:14 For if we believe that Yahshua died and rose again, even so YAHWEH will also bring with Him all those who have fallen asleep through Yahshua.

1Th 4:15 For we say this to you in the Word of YAHWEH, that we the living who remain to the coming of our Master will not at all go before those who have fallen asleep.

1Th 4:16 Because the Master Himself shall come down from Heaven with a commanding shout of an archangel's voice, and with the trumpet of YAHWEH. And the dead in Messiah will rise again first.

1Th 4:17 Then we who remain alive will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet with our Master in the air. And so, we will always be with our Master.

Q): Did Jesus hang on a cross or living tree? Galatians 3:13.

A): **Gal 3:13** Messiah redeemed us from the curse of the Torah, having become a curse for us; for it has been written, "Cursed is everyone having been hung on a tree;"

Act 5:30 The Elohim of our fathers raised up Yahshua, whom you seized, hanging Him on a tree.

Yahshua was crucified on a tree; crucifixions on crosses were done in Rome, but not in Israel at that time; also, the name of our Savior is not Jesus, but Yahshua. Go to www.coyhwh.com for full studies on this topic.

Letters from our Readers

Dear Congregation of Yahweh,

Peace in the name of Elohim; It has taken me longer than I would have hoped to write with my gratitude of thanks to you. I received the Hebraic Roots Bible and it is absolutely the best Bible I have ever read. I study the Scriptures daily and have been baptized in the name of Yahshua and had hands laid on me by a proper elder.

I have been in the faith, the way of true worship for about 5 years now. In that time, I have prayed many times for this Bible. I praise Yahweh for being able to receive it. Thank you again for allowing Yahweh to use you to produce such a piece of gold as the Hebraic Roots Bible.

TX, USA _____

Dear Don and Family,

Wow, what a momentous year this has been so far! The remnant Church around the world is being aroused to stand hand in hand to support the Lord's move. The enemy and his servants seek to impose satanic, anti-Christian rules that will imprison the whole planet.

Is it truly the time for that? What about Yahshua's promise that the Good-News would be taken to all nations, to the ends of the earth? Where is His last great harvest of souls? I do believe it is yet to come. That means the forces of darkness must be rolled back one more time! I pray for that. Will Satan capture the current generation? Is there no hope for them?

Don, you are a vital part of carrying the Good-News to all nations, as well as all those in the body with you.

Halleluyah, Shalom, CA, USA _____

Dear COYHWH,

Thank you so much for the book, "The Gates of Hell Shall Not prevail Against Her". I was just praying and asking the Father for reading material, and the mail came just a few moments later, and I received the book. May Yahweh continue to bless you and the ministry.

I would also like to request the book, The Chosen People, and if possible, The Biblical Calendar. I'm not bragging at all, but it feels great that the Father has brought me out of Christianity, so I have been learning to pray for others who are lost. Thank you so much, and please pray for me.

Peace and Grace be upon you from Yahweh's hand,

TX, USA _____

Dear Elder Don,

Sincere thanks for all your timely and encouraging videos and literature. All praise to Yahweh and Yahshua. Please send me 4 Chosen People and 4 The Great Falling Aways, and I request prayers for these wonderful books to be directed into the hands that would love and appreciate them as I do.

Thank you, CA, USA

Stand by the roads,
look, and ask for the
ancient paths, where
the good way is; and
walk in it, and find rest
for your souls.

Jer. 6:16

