

# Yeshua MISHPACHAH

A NEWSLETTER TO THE FAMILY OF JESUS FROM RESTORATION MINISTRIES

*The Hebraic family is not simply an individual or private matter. Rather, it is an institution in which the whole community has a stake. Thus, the Hebrew word "mishpachah," meaning family, not only refers to parents and children, but to the whole extended family worldwide in the body of "Yeshua"— our Jesus.*

Dear Friends,

This letter is slightly different than our previous letters. Before the new millennium arrives we want to share with you a comparison of the truths of the Hebraic Restoration with major influences in Christianity today. The comparison begins on page 2.

***"Make Christ known and He will direct your path."***

The central focus of the Hebraic Restoration is Jesus. It is His message of healing, redemption, and freedom to those who will live out these truths.

As sharers of this message our #1 focus is to make Christ known. Our prayer for ourselves is, *"Father give us a Spirit of wisdom and revelation that we may know you better. Give us opportunities to share the message of Restoration."*

***"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed"*** (John 8:36).

When we conduct *Restoring the Early Church Workshops*, it's as if we are presenting these truths to prisoners. In essence, the Restoration is God telling the prisoners, the people raised in the Gre-co/Roman church system, how they can live free. The problem is that so many have become too familiar with the prison way of life. It is easier to remain a prisoner and have others tell you what to do than to free yourself. Maybe you are familiar with "religious prisons". You may have even escaped from them yourself:

Christian Reconstructionism

Christian Fundamentalism  
Christian Denominationalism  
Messianic Judaism

"Ism's", including communism and socialism, are prisons that require you to conform. To produce conformity people are compelled to follow a pre-established set of rules or doctrines. It is these rules and doctrines, and the related practices they produce, that identify a person as belonging to that group.

***"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery"*** (Gal. 5:1).

Our Father desires each of us to love Him freely and gratefully. Isn't it amazing how our Lord's sovereignty and our free will can exist together? From Adam and Eve to each of us, our Father has given us the freedom to choose: to love or not to love. For those embracing the Hebraic Restoration, your ongoing trust in Jesus produces the freedom and the power to love.

One particular "ism" for which Sue and I are burdened is Messianic Judaism. We mentioned in a previous letter that a number of Gentiles are entering some of these communities only to end up denying Christ and converting to Judaism.

The difficulty is that so many Jewish people who believe in the Messiah are not taught *how to walk free* in Him. Their Jewish heritage

convinces them that Torah Observance is what God demands of them. Tragically, for many observance turns into legalistic perversion, the perversion that kept their forefathers from embracing the Messiah. Legalistic perversion teaches that a person is justified by his own righteousness as he observes Torah. Paul refutes this perversion:

*"For everyone who depends on legalistic observance of Torah commands lives under a curse...Now it evident that no one comes to be declared righteous by God through legalism... Furthermore, legalism is not based on trusting, but on a misuse of the text that says, 'Anyone who does these things will attain life through them.' [Lev. 18:5]*

*The Messiah redeemed us from the curse pronounced in Torah by becoming cursed on our behalf... Jesus did this so that in union with Him the Gentiles might receive the blessings announced to Abraham, so that through trusting and being faithful, we might receive what was promised, namely, the Spirit" (Gal. 3:10-14).*

The Hebraic Restoration is God's way of freedom by restoring the promise given to the Hebrew, Abraham. It is not legalistic perversion through observing the Torah given to the Israelite, Moses.

The Hebraic Restoration is the "Spirit of Torah." It is the way of trust-filled love and obedience to the Lord Jesus. Your obedience is an expression of your love for God. Let me emphasize this: Your obedience is

an expression of your love.

The “Letter of Torah” is the prison of perversion from which Paul wanted to save the Gentiles. People who ascribe to keeping the letter justify themselves by meticulously obeying God’s commands. As a result, they develop a *legalistic disdainful attitude* toward those who do not practice as they do. This same disdain pervades all of the “isms”.

In response to many requests, Sue and I have just completed a 26-page article entitled, “A Comparison of the Hebraic Restoration and the Jewish Roots Movement.” You may download it for free at our website.

**Christian Freedom vs. Christian Captivity, or, The Hebraic Restoration vs. the “isms”**

Wherever you find freedom, you’ll find people who boldly seek and question to know for themselves. “Isms” dominate by using fear, especially that of ostracism, to

stifle questioning. (See John 9:22.)

The Lord’s challenge for you as the new millennium begins is, “Why don’t you judge for yourselves what is right?” (Luke 12:57). Do questioning and judging for yourself the truths you practice frighten you? What do you think John means when he writes, “But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit—just as it has taught you, remain in him. And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming” (1 John 2:20,27,28)?

As you enter the next millennium, may you and your family live in freedom. Fulfill Paul’s (and my) prayer for you: “That your love may more and more overflow in fulness of knowledge and depth of discernment, so that you will be able to

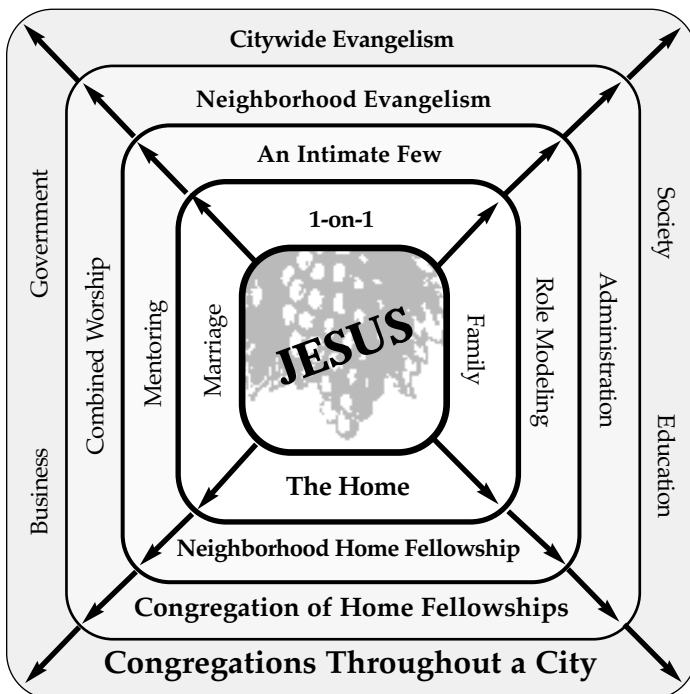
determine what is best and thus be pure and without blame for the Day of our Lord, **filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus our Messiah — to the glory and praise of God**” (Phil. 1:9-11).

Our Lord bids each of us, ‘**By your fruit I will know you,**’ and, ‘**Bear fruit** befitting your repentance.’ The path of the Hebraic Restoration and the path of the “isms” produce noticeably different fruit. Let’s compare some of the differences that distinguish the two paths.

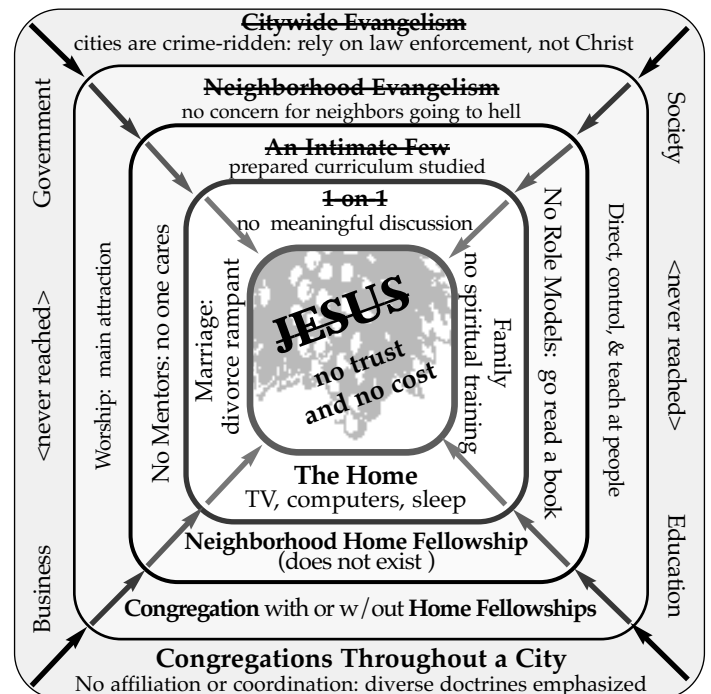
*“Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve... But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord”*

(Joshua 24:15).

**Hebraic Restoration — Christian Freedom**



**The “Ism’s” — Christian Captivity**



## The Hebraic Restoration

Analogy: *The Carpathia, the ship of rescue and refuge*  
Prepared to meet the needs of survivors

The Hebraic Restoration Diagram is like a layered cake that initiates with your relationship with Jesus and flows outward. Each level is like a link in a chain: if one upper link is broken, subsequent ones will be ineffective. Beginning with Jesus, each layer represents your relational priority, Jesus being the foremost Priority with others decreasing in importance as you move toward the outer part of the diagram. A lower relationship must never conflict for time or emphasis with a higher relationship.

Living out the truths of the Hebraic Restoration is a life of "*Simplicity*" and "*Specificity*."

- *Simplicity*. Your relationships are prioritized based upon biblical responsibilities.  
Privileges at each level:  
Jesus & Family: Immediate intrusion and access.  
Home Fellowship: Immediate intrusion as well as scheduled access.  
Congregation: Scheduled access only.
- *Specificity*. Freedom to focus on fulfilling the purposes our Lord has prepared for you to complete (see Eph. 2:8-10). Seeking, knowing, and carrying out His specific will is paramount.

### Jesus

Jesus, Himself, lays the foundation of our relationship with Him: "*Whoever trusts in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.*" By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who trusted in him were later to receive" (John 7:38,39).

The Lord is telling every person on earth that they must trust in Him as the Hebrew Bible requires. This is the condition for entering the New Covenant with our Father. When a person agrees with the conditions of the covenant, the Father gives the promised Holy Spirit to consummate the covenant.

There is no patching of religious traditions and doctrines with a trust in Jesus. It will only tear apart. (See Matt. 9:14-17.)

Our *ongoing* relationship with our Lord requires *ongoing* trust. Remember, salvation is a pilgrimage much like a marriage rather than some point in time when a person claims "I was saved." The ongoing trust is seen in Romans 10:9,10, "*That if you acknowledge publicly with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and trust in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be delivered. For with the heart one goes on trusting and thus continues toward righteousness, while with the mouth one keeps on making public acknowledgment and thus continues toward deliverance.*"

The Holy Spirit's presence, given as a consumma-

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## The Roman/Greek Church

Analogy: *The Titanic, the ship of pride and disaster*  
Avoided warnings of disaster by turning off its radio

For the sake of comparison we have reversed the flow from the Restoration Diagram. It is this *reversal of priority* and an emphasis on the *impersonal* rather than the personal that is bringing about "church" destruction and lack of influence in our godless culture. The problem? "Church activity" robs people of the time they need for Jesus, their home, and home fellowship relationships.

This impersonalness has produced a divorce rate of church-going people that is 4% higher than among the unchurched. Among Christian fundamentalists, the rate is 7% higher. Clergy, who run the system, are now the leading occupation for divorce in this country. How can they be relied on to role model the covenant of marriage that so desperately needs to be advanced?

The programmed/impersonal approach is the method of choice by both churches and ministries in the US. It is efficient and can be run without having to personally care for anyone. Perplexing for us is that some of the ministries that claim to be focused on strengthening the family emphasize the importance of *clergy* to save families!

Tragically, some of these larger ministries, influenced by Christian Reconstructionism, do not even see that only the intervention of Jesus can stop the moral decay of this nation. Instead of the power of God, they rely on political maneuvering and pressure to force unbelievers to live like believers.

### Jesus

People in the "isms" disdain Roman Catholics who pray to Mary, the deceased saints, or angels. The practice of praying to others besides our Lord came about because people made God appear so unloving that "His mother" and other intermediaries were needed to speak to Him on their behalf.

But understand: The "isms" present to the world a God equally as unapproachable. Someone needs to shout it from the roof tops: The world does not see the *love of God* in you! You are neither salt nor light. What I call the "*the ism disdain for sinners*" keeps many for whom Jesus died from entering God's Kingdom. Our Lord died for sinners! (See Matt. 9:13.)

"*Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would trust in him and receive eternal life*" (1 Tim. 1:15,16).

My strongest encouragement for anyone is, Don't claim the name *Christian* if you don't live as Christ to

tion of the covenant, creates a *distinctly different life* which is very evident: <sup>4</sup> the world! Don't ever give our Lord cause to speak to you this way:

- \* He nourishes your dependence on the Father through prayer.
- \* He conforms you to the image of the Lord Jesus.
- \* He causes you to see God moving in and around you so that you can keep on acknowledging Him.

Ultimately the Spirit empowers your trust to bear the fruit of love: *"United with Christ, what matters is trusting faithfulness expressing itself through love"* (Gal. 5:5,6). *"The love of God compels [you]"* so that your obedience isn't based on what you *have* to do; the love in your heart makes you *want* to. Do you remember these words from Keith Green, *"Thank you, Oh my Father, for giving us your Son and leaving your Spirit 'til Your work on earth is done'"*?

The Holy Spirit is manifested in *power*:

- \* **Power** seen in answered prayer.
- \* **Power** to free people from demonic oppression.
- \* **Power** to heal.
- \* **Power** to. . . (See 1 Cor. 2:4.)

But the Holy Spirit's power comes with a cost: you must avoid those who *claim* to be Christian but deny the power: *"[People] having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them"* (2 Tim. 3:5). This is one of the primary breaks in the chain for those who would trust Jesus but refuse to walk in His ways. Separation from the lukewarm is too much of a cost to bear. (see Rev. 3:16).

Those who have experienced the power of the Holy Spirit represent God differently to others than those who have never known nor relied on His power. The experienced know what God can do! The inexperienced will rely on human reasoning, persuasion, and psychological techniques.

### **The Home: *Marriage***

Your love relationship with your Lord flows into your marriage. Your covenant partner is the first recipient to experience the love of Jesus in you. A foundational truth: your marriage is the *first human community* to reflect your love relationship with your heavenly Father and His Son Jesus.

Having a wife humbles a man and causes him to draw closer to his Lord so that he can love her as God's gift to him and treat her accordingly. Anything that conflicts with this responsibility will cause pain and ultimately destroy the marriage.

A man who experiences love from his wife will resist the temptation to be an alcoholic, workaholic, an out-of-the-house-aholic, or sportsaholic. Obedient sacrificial love for God and from his wife keeps a man from considering adultery.

*"Why do you look at the [sin] in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the [lack of love in your own life]? How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me [point out your sin]' when you yourself fail to [love him as I do]? You hypocrite, first [ask Me to help you to love as I do], and then you will see clearly to [speak to your brother about his sin]"* (Luke 6:41,42).

What the world needs is to see Jesus in you. Do you recall the words to the song, "Open my eyes, Lord, I want to see Jesus. To reach out and touch Him..." *If a person cannot touch Jesus in you, then you do not have Jesus!* Wherever Jesus is, His presence is felt. The world needs Jesus, not the hypocrisy of the "isms"—or any other kind.

- What "gospel" did you embrace? Is it based upon the Hebrew Bible, the Older Testament?
- Do those who know you see the love of Jesus growing in your life?
- Does your life display the power of the Holy Spirit?
- 75% of Protestant missionaries from the US do not make it through their first tour on the mission field. If you are considering missions, don't go as a representative of the Titanic. The probability is that you won't have enough love of Jesus to last.

If you have problems in any of the above areas I encourage you to jump ship and get to the Carpathia before it is too late. (See Matt. 25:1-13.)

### **The Home: *Marriage***

Many years ago Sue and I heard a phrase that typifies marriages that operate in this prison system: the partners are "two married singles."

Instead of a relationship that embodies companionship and community, their marriage resembles grizzly bears — alone, except for mating season.

- If you are married, does your spouse experience the love of Jesus through you?
- If you are married, how many spiritual things do you do together: Pray together daily? Have guests into your home? Discuss and apply the Bible together? Burst into song together spontaneously?
- Can you honestly say that your spouse is your *load-bearing friend* in the Lord?

If these things are not happening you may want to consider again jumping ship to seek refuge on the Carpathia. You and your mate need the love and intimacy that only a committed trust relationship with your Lord can bring.

### **The Home: *Family***

The concept of home has changed dramatically.

## The Home: *Family*

A visible, trusting obedience that is borne on your love relationship with our Lord is *caught by* (not taught to) your children. The simplicity of keeping His commands as an *expression your love relationship* is not hard to pass along. It is much easier for a child to learn biblical freedom and boundaries in his home when it is seen in his parents' relationship. A child who is taught biblical do's and don'ts outside the home with no emphasis on relationship will have little chance of adapting them to his or her own relational life.

The *interconnectedness* between the parent(s) and the child secures the value attached to what is being modeled. Biblical elders pastoring in a home fellowship recognize the generational responsibility God extends to parents and refrain from adding to their time/energy expenditure with "church activities" that impede this priority.

## Neighborhood Home Fellowship

Our Hebraic forefathers knew that God held them communally responsible for each other as extended intergenerational spiritual family. The *primary reason* for joining together with others outside your own home is to *uphold God's righteousness* in each other so that *prayers may be answered*. [Please note: This is a major potential break in the chain. People most often join Christian groups for social reasons and to have their own needs met. Seldom do they pursue God's purposes.]

Our righteousness before the Throne indeed comes from the sacrificial price paid by Jesus. Our personal *walk* of righteousness comes as we trust Him and obey His Word out of love for Him. When we fail, He calls us to confess that failure and repent: to *turn away* from that sin and *turn toward* God.

As Sue and I have lived in different cities over the past few years, we have prayerfully waited for our Lord to raise up others with a heart for righteousness. As a family we are accustomed, almost *addicted*, to having our prayers answered. When we have fellowshipped with a believer who tried to hide his/her sins, our prayers weren't answered until that person repented. So much of His life is experienced when communal righteousness loves enough to correct and rebuke as well as comfort and encourage!

In one of only two times that Jesus uses the word "church", He relates to us the important process of maintaining righteousness. Each step is designed to keep others out of the process until they might be needed. In the end, though, an unrepentant person must be removed. The criterion of fellowshipping with God is always righteousness:

*"If your brother sins, go and show him his fault, just*

Instead of a sanctuary for relational growth to pass along principles for the success of the next generation, it has become a cave for TV, computer games, and sleep.

Fathers are portrayed in the media as unnecessary burdens. Sadly, much paternal behavior would merit this evaluation. CNN recently reported studies that indicate how "useless" the modern father is in positively influencing his children. Uninvolved church-going fathers who have "outsourced" their families to the church for spiritual instruction only confirm that report.

An increasing number of wives are discovering that even ministries like Promise Keepers take their husbands away for the "big event with the big name" but nothing changes at home. Try this experiment: Ask the family of any man who makes sure he attends Promise Keepers, "How have things changed in your home because of your Dad's participation in Promises Keepers?"

The clergy people who lead the way in divorce are the first to encourage their men to attend Promise Keepers functions. A man whose own marriage fails to reflect the covenant love of the Father finds it comfortable to have other men around him just like himself: "*Woe to you, [clergy], you hypocrites! You are like white-washed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness*" (Matt. 23:27,28).

**Working Mothers:** Wives who work outside the home and raise a family are now considered *complete* women. TV portrays it this way so it must be true... The working mother is portrayed as head-and-shoulders in competence above the woman who stays at home to raise her family.

**Mothers Who Stay at Home:** A growing epidemic of church functions for women at home have sprung up. Most, however, lack any *specific focus* for a woman to *fulfill God's purposes* for her life. These meetings offer a measure of companionship but they only serve to diffuse the woman's focus. How much more vital and stimulating for a woman to gather with a mentor or fellow load-bearing sisters in a home! They can get to know each other better and encourage each other to trust Him more and more!

Ask those who participate in "for me" church groups, "Who is blessed by what you do?" "How do these events serve the interests of God?" Now picture yourself bringing your children, if applicable, to serve in errands of mercy for the needy and sharing Jesus in deed as well as in word. Then ask yourself the same questions as before. Weigh the following:

- Do you know how to have a meaningful biblical discussion with your family?

*between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church [other 'called-out ones']; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector. I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven" (Matt. 18:15-19).*

What do you think is the most likely venue for the above passage to be enacted? Where it matters the most—the home fellowship. Again, the primary reason for fellowship in homes is to uphold righteousness in the lives of one another so that prayer can be answered. This is the major difference between fellowship in homes that is being brought about by the Hebraic Restoration and all other “home group” movements.

Our forefathers knew that except for Jesus, no one can remain sinless. Our Father foresaw that even those who trusted in Jesus would not find it easy to walk in holiness. (See Rom. 7:19-25.) God’s condition for maintaining righteousness is found in our confession and repentance (turning from our sin and turning to God). *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).*

Righteousness opens the way for the Lord to hear our prayers. *“For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil” (1 Pet. 3:12).*

*“Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective” (James 5:16).*

If *collectively* you do not stay repentant, your home fellowship will be like a dry well—no heavenly fellowship and no answered prayer.

Home Fellowships are God’s means of:

- Confronting unrighteousness [unconfessed, unrepentant sin] when an individual and/or family in the fellowship fails to respond to the conviction of the Holy Spirit.
- Expanding his Kingdom through ongoing relationships. The neighborhood, including workplaces and schools, provides the ongoing relationships for us to not only reflect Jesus but also to represent Him in His desire for the salvation of all mankind.

**Warning:** *No one* has been successful in permitting people who are part of other faith communities to also be part of their home fellowship. These people dilute the relational commitment needed.

- Is spiritual emphasis greater in your home than at the church building?

If either answer is “no”, get to the Carpathia fast!

### **Neighborhood Home Fellowship** [non-existent]

Neighborhoods have lost their relational concern. Christians have done little through hospitality to undo this trend. Few even invite others from their faith community into their homes.

Picture Jesus standing next to you in front of your home. He looks at you and says, “Love your neighbor.” And you reply as someone once did, “Who is my neighbor?”

Now, picture yourself at the Judgment Throne expecting to be welcomed into heaven. The Judge asks you, “How many homes did you drive by in your neighborhood on your way to Sunday service?” This won’t be the time to sheepishly ask, “Who is my neighbor?” Then you get hit with the second question: “By the way, how many of your neighbors knew you claimed to follow Me?” “[gulp] Follow you Lord? Wasn’t it enough to go to church every Sunday?”

- Are your prayers being answered in a way that only your Father can do to receive the glory?
- Who intercedes for the souls in your neighborhood? If you don’t, who will?
- Are there others in your faith community that you have turned to during times of personal difficulty, or do you go to people outside the community?

If any of the above are not part of your life, consider jumping ship and getting on the Carpathia.

### **Congregations** (with or without) **Home Fellowships**

Congregational life is filled with a variety of disconnected, scheduled religious events which may satisfy you but don’t extend God’s Kingdom.

The congregations that offer home fellowships normally schedule specific meeting times. They are neither a seven-day-a-week commitment nor an extended spiritual family for the participants. The vast majority of home fellowships use a Bible study or a prepared curriculum as their reason for gathering.

This phenomenon was brought up to us while we were still in Israel. A Jewish believer asked us, “Why do you Christians in the US always need some activity like a Bible study in order to get together? Can’t you just get together because you care for each other?” The sad answer, we have found, is “No!”

What about relational intimacy? We hear from as many people about their loneliness who are in small groups, cell groups, kinship groups, etc., as we do from those who just attend a Sunday service. If you have a major problem, professional counselors, not load-bearers, is the preferred solution.

## **Congregation of Home Fellowships and Congregations Throughout a City**

These levels come about because of the growth and multiplication of the home fellowships. Fellowships may choose to congregate together periodically instead of worshiping separately. There is no hard and fast biblical rule. The crucial point is that growth occur through *conversions* at the home and home fellowship level where relationships are established to build up one another in trust of our Lord.

Everything at the congregation level supports the relational intimacy within the home and home fellowship. Keeping the links further up the chain strong is vital to healthy congregations.

## **The Fruit of Living the Hebraic Restoration**

[from the introduction to Table Talk]

Following the way of the Lord encompasses several distinct yet interrelated facets. The different topics of Table Talk will help you discuss and apply appropriate biblical principles to your life and your family under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The resulting fruit is that the *different facets listed below* will begin to take root in your attitude and behavior to reflect the increasing character of Jesus:

1. Obedient trust authenticates your love for God by living out His commands.
2. Forgiving others bears witness that you are on the right way.
3. Rejection of self-interest reveals Jesus in ways that words alone could not.
4. Rejection by others allows you to taste the persecution that comes to all who follow the narrow way of obedient trust.
5. Your obedient actions and responses cause others to praise our Father.
6. Life becomes a way of walking in the power of the Holy Spirit.
7. Prayer is intimate conversation with your Father.
8. Life becomes a way of love.
9. Life becomes a way of trust which dispels worry.
10. Life produces a pattern of testimony to God's faithfulness.
11. You grow increasingly burdened for the lost and earnestly seek to be His instrument of life to them.

**Aren't you glad that you booked passage on the Carpathia from the moment you put your trust in Jesus? Get yourself prepared! The survivors from the Titanic will be coming soon. They will need mentors and role models so that they too can live out these truths and bear fruit for our Lord.**

## **"Come to our church, we have great worship."**

The main drawing card for many congregations is their worship. Our interpretation of the invitation: "Come to our *performance*. We don't want the burden of caring for you—just your warm body and your tithe."

Over the years we have recognized that people who have difficulty maintaining a trust relationship with Jesus end up in either entertainment or liturgical congregations. Think about it: Is there any difference between going to a movie or to a lively or liturgical worship service when you have no ongoing relational intimacy with our Lord? No difference.

- Does your congregation have a mortgage? Then Jesus of the Bible will not be preached. Clergy know: Offended ears close their checkbooks!
- Are your "spiritual conversations" more about church events than how you can personally bless someone else?  
If any of the above apply, you may want to expedite your departure for the Carpathia.

## **Congregations Throughout a City**

When I go to the top of the hill overlooking our small town, I see no fewer than 9 church steeples. Our town is rife with gangs and crime. Even in the local newspaper, the time and place of church services is placed in the "movies and entertainment" section. I can't find one church growing through conversions! As we travel and do our seminars, this town is representative of every town in the US. *Law enforcement* has become the power of choice, not obedient trust in Jesus.

The varied denominationally and doctrinally divided communities are blind to the folly of calling themselves "Christian" but failing to walk in His power to accomplish the Gospel responsibility that comes with the name "*Christian*." They honestly believe that God respects and condones these prejudicial barriers among His children.

- Is your religious practice based on a doctrinal perspective and scheduled gatherings? Or is it a *way of life* in which others are coming into the Kingdom because of you?
- Are your religious beliefs and practices controlled by a governing body beyond your local faith community? Can you question any practice without being ostracized?

**Doesn't the Carpathia look good? Begin your trip to the Carpathia by reading for yourself the truths of the Hebraic Restoration which our Lord is revealing around the world.**

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