

TIKKUN AMERICA

restore

Issue 35 | Sivan | June 2024

AWAKENING YOUR PROPHETIC VOICE

Created for Unbroken Communion with God

PLANTING SEEDS

What Kind Are You Planting?

GOD'S RHYTHM

Shabbat as a Pattern of Refreshment

TIKKUN'S BEST KEPT SECRET?

The One New Man and the Glory of Yeshua



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Brooke Allsbrook, a native-born Long Island girl was radically saved at 26 as a result of a prophetic dream of Jesus, the Messiah. Not yet a believer, Brooke thought she was a convert to Christianity or better yet, crazy until she realized that Yeshua was the key to her healing and identity. Brooke alongside her husband, Rabbi Aaron Allsbrook leads at Ohev Yisrael Messianic Congregation in Virginia. Brooke is the mother of four.

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KATHLEEN RANTZ

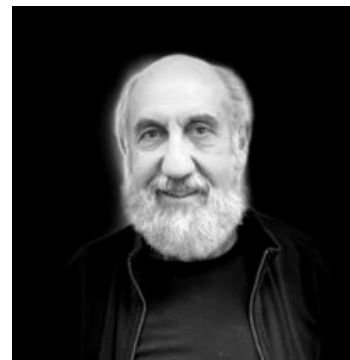


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He served as the Executive Director of Tikkun International before being appointed the President of Tikkun America in January 2020. Benjamin's focus is on planting Messianic congregations, mentoring and releasing emerging leaders, and building unity among churches and ministries to stand with Israel today and in preparation for the end times. Benjamin and Lorena also help to lead the international teaching ministry Restoration From Zion, affiliated with Tikkun Global.

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— *from the
editor*

THE HIGHWAY TO HOLINESS IS THE LOW- WAY OF HUMILITY



BENJAMIN JUSTER

Part 1 - Humility Toward God

Perhaps you haven't heard about the book, *How I Achieved Humility By Age Twenty-three* — it didn't do very well. The story is told of the senior leader of a congregation who after many years of faithful service was awarded an intricately engraved gold pin for his humility. The next week, he wore it on the lapel of his suit coat to services—the congregation then took it away from him.

Humility is one of those topics that are uncomfortable for many of us to talk about. We often easily recognize the lack of it in others. But when it comes to ourselves, we sometimes are blinded to our lack of humility toward others. And it seems that when we finally do feel we've achieved a measure of it, we just as quickly lose it the moment we talk about it. It's just an uncomfortable topic.

Yet humility is one of the prime character traits that proves our subjection to the Kingdom of God and the quality of love that most defines one's life in Messiah. Humility is the measure of the activity of discipleship in our lives and the posture we are expected to maintain in every relationship – our friends, family, co-workers, bosses, those above us and those below us, those we like, and those we don't agree with or even would like to avoid! Yes, even our enemies who mistreat us and falsely accuse us.

Time and time again, Yeshua and the writers of the New Testament emphasize a radical life of humility. And more, the thrust of the entire Bible makes clear that a redeemed life is one that has cast off pride and taken on a contrite and humble heart toward God and to our fellow man. The Highway to Holiness is the Low-way of Humility!

Over the next few months, we will explore a few “mile markers” on the Low-way of Humility.

Mile Marker 1 - Humility Toward God.

Pride is the antithesis of humility. We must start by recognizing that pride is the most cardinal of all sins. It is the first sin committed in the garden of Eden by Adam and Eve as they sought to be “like God.” It is the sin of Lucifer and the angels, as they rebelled against God's authority to promote their own. Jealousy, greed, self-absorption, self-pity, bitterness, rage, rebellion . . .



almost every sin ties back in some way to the sin of pride.

Pride surfaces not only in direct rebellion against God's commandments, but in the more subtle life choices and attitudes that prevent us from living a life that is given completely over to Him.

C.S. Lewis gets to the heart of it in one of the *Screwtape Letters*. Writing to his junior demon, the senior tempter gives some important advice in the art of deception,

"You must therefore conceal from the patient the true end of humility. Let him think of it ... as a low opinion of his own talents and character".



Rather than humility being an inward posture toward God that results in outward acts of love and service, it becomes a veil that conceals a type of pride. This pride denounces God by proclaiming that your condition is beyond God's transforming power to change you.

Andrew Murray, late 19th century South African missionary and minister, wrote in his book *Humility* this definition:

"Humility, the place of entire dependence on God, is from the very nature of things, the first duty and the highest virtue of the creature (man), and the root of every virtue. And so pride, or the loss of this humility, is the root of every sin and evil."

Here is a sampling of what God says about humility through the Scriptures:

Isaiah 66:2b – *"The kind of person on whom I look with favor is one with a poor and humble spirit, who trembles at my word."*

Psalms 149:4 – *"for Adonai takes delight in his people, he crowns the humble with salvation."*

2 Chronicles 7:14 – *"If my people, who bear my name, will humble themselves, pray, seek my face and turn from their evil ways, I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin and heal their land."*

Galatians 5:22-23 – “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility (gentleness), and self control. Nothing in the Torah stands against such things.”

Zechariah even prophesied that the Messiah would not only have great power, but gentle humility. Zechariah 9:9 – “Rejoice with all your heart, daughter of Tziyon! Shout out loud, daughter of Yerushalayim! Look! Your king is coming to you. He is righteous, and he is victorious. Yet he is humble – he’s riding on a donkey, yes, on a lowly donkey’s colt.”

And in fulfillment, Yeshua both emphasized and demonstrated unparalleled humility throughout His ministry on earth!

Matt. 5:5 – “Blessed are the meek! For they will inherit the Land!”

Matt. 5:7 – “Blessed are those who show mercy! For they will be shown mercy.”

Matt. 5:9,10 – “Blessed are those who make peace! For they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because they pursue righteousness! For the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.”

Matt. 11:29 – “Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”



Matt. 23:11 - *"The greatest among you must be your servant, for whoever promotes himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be promoted."*

Also think about humility in the context of Yeshua's comparison of the two types of prayer in Luke 18, the account of Miriam and the expensive jar of perfume - Matt. 26; Mark 14; Luke 7; John 12

Yeshua only did what he saw his Father doing.

If we profess to be believers, humility toward God will come in one of two ways:

Voluntarily - We will recognize our utter lack of self-sufficiency and replace it with complete trust in God's ability. This leads to a contrite and humble heart. We are quick to repent and quick to appropriate God's grace to change.

Consequentially - God will allow us to go our own way to our own misery. He will even permit hardship, trials, and the pains of life to tenderize us until we are able to willingly humble ourselves before Him.

I exhort you to voluntarily humble yourself before the Lord to reap the blessing of an abundant life aligned to His perfect ability!

Humility accepts the talents that God has given us, without jealousy for the talents of others, and applies them for His service.



No longer can we use the excuse, "If only I could be or have _____ like so and so, then I could do what God has called me to do."

One must fully believe that God will provide every tool, resource, and ability (2 Peter 1) that is necessary to complete His work in your life and your purpose in the world! This actually takes great humility, as we recognize that even our gifts and talents alone are nothing without God.

Next month we will unpack Mile Marker 2, "Humility Toward Others".

 **Benjamin Juster**
Editor in Chief



HUMILITY ACCEPTS

THE TALENTS
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BENJAMIN JUSTER

Awakening *Your* Prophetic Voice

BROOKE ALLSBROOK

It is evident that God talks to us; He wants to invade our souls. John 10:27 clearly states, “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.” He wants to pervade our thinking and permeate our entire being—body, mind, spirit and soul. Yet so often we get stuck wondering if we are hearing Him correctly, or even at all. However, it is God’s destiny for you, and for all of humanity, to be able to discern the voice of the Lord, and in doing so, awaken the prophetic within you.

Yeshua is the embodiment of the Living Word and writes the Torah on our hearts, thus enabling us to live in oneness with Him. 1 Corinthians 6:17 states, “But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him.” This passage is an invitation to acknowledge that within our own being lives the Eternal presence of the living God. This is a magnanimous concept to grasp, especially for our Jewish brothers and sisters around the globe who may not believe that God still speaks or that He only speaks through prophets, like Moses.

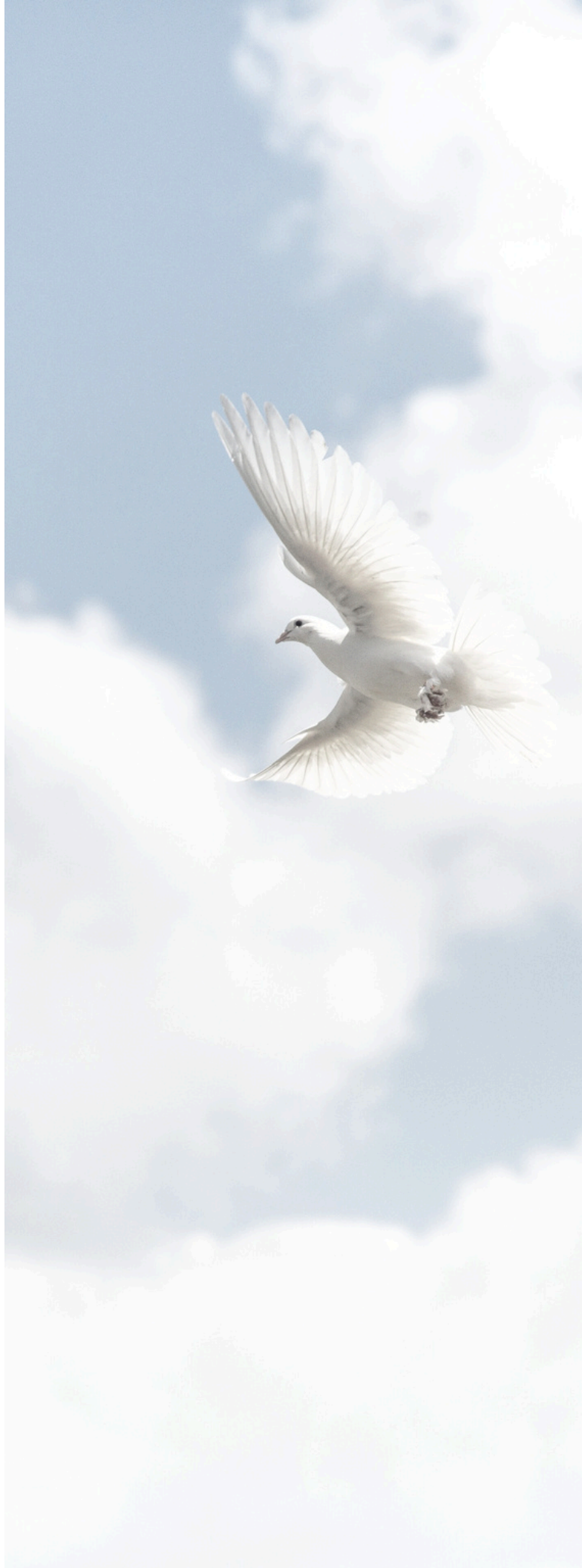


Yet, we know as Hebrews 1:1-2 states,

“Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.”

Despite disbelief, and sometimes against our own self-will, God, in all His wonder and grace, works His ways into a person so deeply that we come into the saving knowledge of Messiah. It is there at the footstool of Yeshua where we lay down our own ideas and concepts and trade them for the hidden treasures of the Kingdom. For He says if we are to know Him we may share in His wisdom ...“My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Messiah, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.” (Colossians 2:2-3) He tells us these things so we will not be deceived.

I believe that God is calling for a prophetic people. God created man with the intent of unbroken communion with Him. We always were intended to hear the voice of our Father and to partner with His voice (which is the essence of prophetic function). When the Holy Spirit came on the Day of Pentecost (Shavu'ot), Peter stood up to explain the events.





He cited a prophecy in Joel 2:28-32, in which Joel said that someday the Lord would pour out His Spirit upon all of humanity, and that all the people would become prophets. Being prophetic is God's destiny for every person. Through Yeshua, and empowered by the presence of the Holy Spirit, we have access to discern and know the will of God for our lives. It has never been more important to be trained in prophetic ways and know how to pursue Him and hear His voice. Yet it is not enough to stop within ourselves; we must also engage the prophetic in our children's lives and within our congregations.

Many believers only look inward and negate their prophetic call confusing it with the act of foretelling the future. However, this is not the full scope of prophetic function. So, how do we awaken the prophetic within us and discern the voice of the Lord?

First, I'd like to state this is a spiritual discipline that takes time to cultivate, and we all need to accept that we will make mistakes. I will never forget how I once thought the Lord was telling me that I was going to meet my husband at a specific place and time. I found myself at a Bible study in the countryside of London, England believing fully that it was God who drew me there. Needless to say, I misheard. After much conversation and discernment with God, I continued listening to His word and ultimately I met my husband in Brooklyn, NY.

I want to bring awareness to some barriers you might be facing, including hindrances that may keep you from living in alignment with God's will and discerning His voice. Firstly, we need to decide in our hearts that the word of God is true. Hebrews 4:12 declares, "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to divide soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

With such a plethora of information available to us, it is more important now than ever for us to discern God's word and know that only that is true. We must choose not to be ignorant, as the prophet Hosea (4:6) exhorts as a mouthpiece for God that, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."

Once we decide in our hearts that the word of God is true, alive, and active, it will become the filter by which we process all other information.

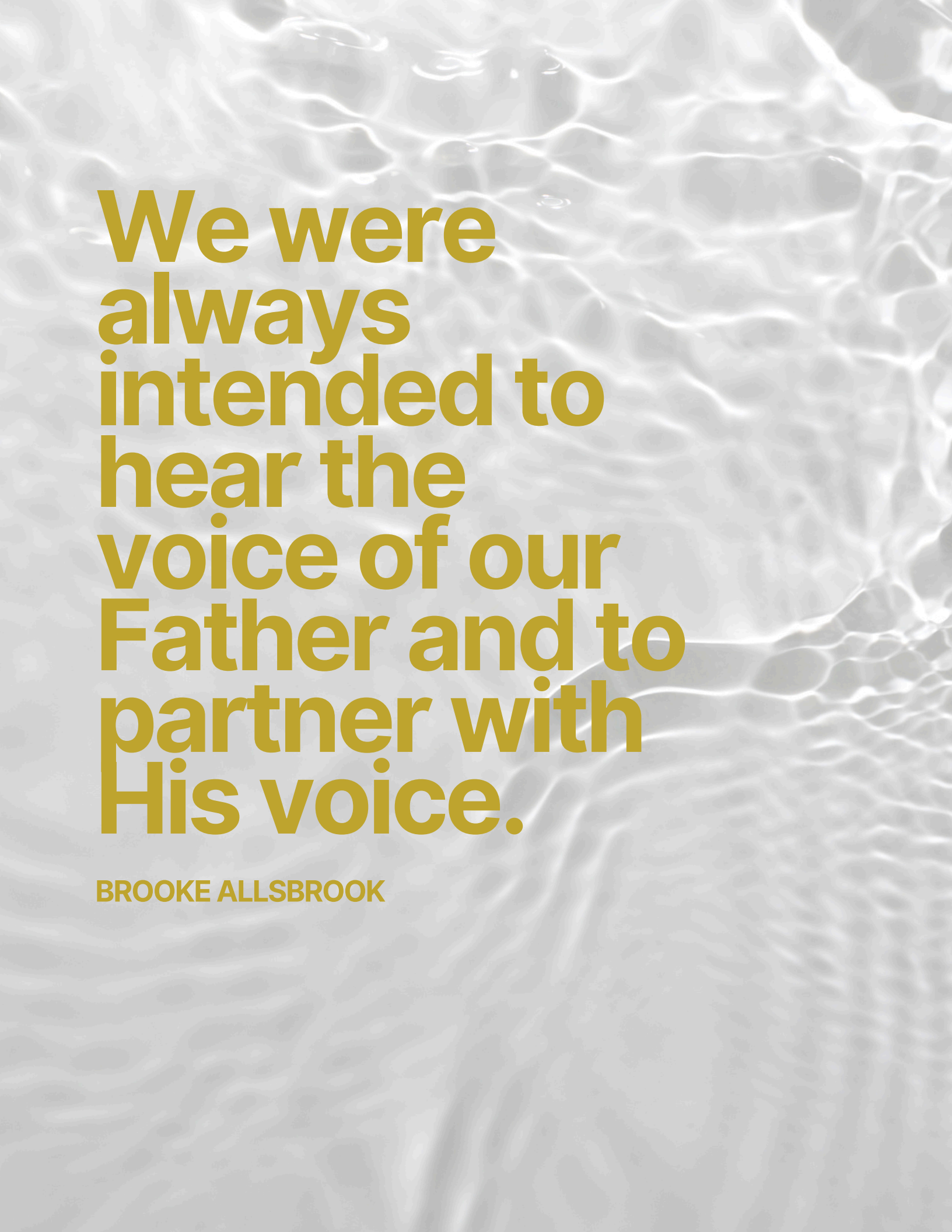
Thus, our lives and minds will align to His will. We need to believe that God is true more than we believe the things that we see right in front of us. During this process, we need to cast down double mindedness, for we are a new creation in Him and have the Mind of Messiah. This may require some inner healing and deliverance from demonic influence.

2 Corinthians 10:5 says that we should "cast down every imagination," meaning that we must reject or eliminate thoughts or ideas which go against the knowledge of God and to bring every thought into obedience of Yeshua the Messiah. Along with this deliverance, we need to learn how to identify as a son or daughter of God. Proverbs 3:1-2 states, "My son (or daughter), do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity.

This is a promise for the one who is a child of God. We must learn (teach ourselves) to act as a child and daughter or son of God. If we truly believe with all our hearts that what God says is true, then we will not lean upon our own understanding nor give into counterfeits or worldly seductions. We will not fall victims of sinful addictions.

I have had to identify disbelief in my own life and count it as sin to God. But there is a practical way to obtain faith. It is contained in Romans 10 in noting that faith comes by hearing, hearing by the word of God. **FAITH COMES** - it can come! But there is something we must do. We must express it with our mouths what we believe in our hearts. The mouth and the heart need to cooperate for our faith to become truly effective. If you confess with your mouth and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead you will be saved. As a Jewish person, I have had trouble claiming the name of Yeshua for myself, and I truly believe there is a special blessing for Jewish people when they call upon the name of Yeshua. There is a unique inheritance that we receive, and the promises of God are restored to them.

God created man with the intent of unbroken communion with Him. We were always intended to hear the voice of our Father and to partner with His voice. God wants to speak to us about our futures and how to bring the Kingdom of God on this Earth more than ever before. He knows as humans that we are subject to fear, so He puts seeds in our hearts and waters them, one day to bloom. God is not a God of fear. If we are suffering from fear, it is because we are listening to a voice other than the Holy Spirit. Let us be the generation that Hears and does!

The background of the entire image is a close-up, high-contrast photograph of water ripples. The light reflects off the crests of the waves, creating a shimmering, textured effect in shades of white, light gray, and pale blue. The ripples are organic and fluid, filling the entire frame.

**We were
always
intended to
hear the
voice of our
Father and to
partner with
His voice.**

BROOKE ALLSBROOK



Planting Seeds

KATHLEEN RANTZ

Recently, the Lord put on my heart the issue of personal behavior and how we either emulate, or do not reflect God in our daily lives.

Currently I volunteer at a ministry called C.H.E.C., (Christian Homeschool Education Center). It's a place where parents can bring their children to get help with homeschooling in a Godly environment. Each morning is opened with motivational praise and worship, followed by discussion on God's purpose for us and our lives. But no sooner are we done and are heading to the classroom, the children will start behaving badly and even call each other names. This led me to write a lesson from them on how we are to behave with one another in a Godly fashion, while setting some examples.

As I was writing this lesson, it occurred to me that there are many believers in the Body of Messiah who behave the same way.

They spend their time in Shabbat services, praising God and reciting the prayers on how we are to “love our neighbors as ourselves,” but no sooner are we done with the service, they will start gossiping, or fighting with one another. This is what our children all see and hear!

Set a guard, Adonai, over my mouth; keep watch at the door of my lips. Don't let my heart turn to anything evil or allow me to act wickedly with men who are evildoers; keep me from eating their delicacies. - Psalm 141:3-4
CJB

These words from King David are what we should all live by. If we're going to raise our children in the way they should go, then we need to be mindful of how we act and to be aware of what comes out of our mouths when they are with us. Our children love to emulate us; they will copy everything we do. Even if it's bad behavior, our children will see this behavior as “okay,” and will believe that other families behave that way as well. If they go and spread those bad seeds, they'll find out the hard way that it's not okay. What's worse is your child will be punished for something he/she may have in fact learned from us. This I say from experience, both from a child and a parental point of view.



Below is my C.H.E.C. lesson modified for the adult:

“So, when you have your time with God in the morning with worship and Bible study, what goes through your mind? Do you see this as just routine and focusing more on the dancing and singing, or do you really listen to the lyrics of the song? Do you soak in the Bible verses? When Yeshua talks about a person's character, and how to behave, do you think He means in the moment, or throughout the day everyday? Did you know that God sees everything, and hears everything we say or do? Not just when you pray to Him, or when you're in your congregations, but all the time.

Did you know that it saddens Him when He hears the negative words you use toward each other? Even if something is true, there is a way to speak without hurting someone else's feelings. Every word that comes out of your mouth can either edify someone or break them down. How you relate to God affects how you relate to other people, and how you relate to other people is reflective of what you think of God. Does your relationship with God need improvement?"

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not my ways," says Adonai. "As high as the sky is above the earth are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For just as rain and snow fall from the sky and do not return there, but water the earth, causing it to bud and produce, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater; so is my word that goes out from my mouth —it will not return to me unfulfilled; but it will accomplish what I intend, and cause to succeed what I sent it to do. - Isaiah 55:8-11
CJB

What kind of seeds are you planting when you speak to others? Are they seeds that will blossom into beautiful trees and flowers that will pollinate and spread good seeds to others, or are they weeds that will only choke out the good seeds before they grow? If you desire God to use you, then you need to show Him that He can. There are many of us that like joking around; not everyone does. Know your audience. If you think someone is going to be offended by something you say, then don't say it. On the other hand, if there is a conversation you need to have with someone, use discernment. Let the Lord lead that conversation. By letting the Lord lead, there is understanding, and no hurt feelings will transpire.



Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These words, which I am commanding you today, are to be on your heart. You are to teach them diligently to your children, and speak of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down and when you rise up. Bind them as a sign on your hand, they are to be as frontlets between your eyes, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. - Deuteronomy 6:4-9 TLV

This isn't just a prayer we recite on Shabbat; but instead is an instruction of how we are to be everyday. We are to emulate God everyday, in every moment, and we are to pass that on to our children. They see and hear everything we do and say, and so does He. If we slip up, and we will, our children need to see how that is handled in a Godly way. When you ask your child, "What would Yeshua do?," don't just say it and walk away. Instead, teach and show them what He would do. Children will have a better understanding when you use real life scenarios.

Train up a child in the way he should go, when he is old he will not turn from it. - Proverbs 22:6 TLV

Does this mean when they get older they're not going to stray a bit? Of course they will. There will come a time when they will need to find themselves. But, they will remember the values they were taught by you. The seeds you plant will affect future generations. The good seeds that you planted in your children to help them blossom, and they will pass on, and those others will also pass it on to others as well.

You've just left a legacy.





WHAT KIND OF SEEDS ARE YOU PLANTING WHEN YOU SPEAK TO OTHERS?

KATHLEEN RANTZ

An aerial photograph of a beach. The top half shows the sandy shore with gentle waves lapping at the edge. The bottom half shows the ocean with a wave breaking, creating white foam. The water is a deep teal color.

God's Rhythm

PHILIP SNELL

I recently took up lap swimming. I am a fine recreational swimmer, but I am not adept at swimming continuously for some distance. I must stop to catch my breath after swimming each length of the pool. Other swimmers glide gently through the water, breathe with every few strokes, make the turn at the wall, and swim back to the other end.

Try as I might, I have not yet even begun to sniff their level of swimming prowess. They just have a rhythm of the swim strokes and breathing which I presently lack.

Just as in swimming, we need rhythm in life. God's creation has a rhythm which many lack in today's world.



In the Genesis creation account there are at least three ways God creates rhythm for our lives,

On the 4th day, God created the sun, moon, and stars. These are used as signs for seasons and for days and for years. He created the cycle of constellation patterns we observe. He created the daily sunrise and sunset. He created the moon phases and set into motion solar and lunar eclipses. He created predictable ocean tides.

Six times in Genesis 1 we see the phrase, “So there was evening and there was morning.” God was making a *daily* rhythm.

Lastly, in the creation account, God ceased from all His work. He set the seventh day apart as a day holy to Him.

God could have made a world in which no two days were alike, or with just a continuous span of time lacking any demarcation of things such as days or weeks. But He didn’t. God made a world with rhythm. And the rhythm was good. We need the rhythm which God has created.

Fast forward from creation to Israel’s slavery in Egypt and we see that life for the Israelites was a never-ending, bitter toil. Egyptian slavery was a world without rhythms. For some of us, the lives we have built look a lot more like Egypt than Eden. We pursue a “FOMO” (fear of missing out) lifestyle. Boundaries between work and rest are mere suggestions. Our spare time is insanely busy consuming all that this world has to offer. It isn’t healthy or sustainable. Like the Israelites then, we are in need of divine intervention.

Before God finished with the final plague over Egypt He began to establish a rhythm. Beginning with the Passover, which He declares should be done annually, God begins to reorient the life of His people to be aligned to His rhythm.

God brings Israel out of Egypt and begins to establish a weekly rhythm by giving them Shabbat, a day of rest. For several generations, Israel knew nothing but endless work. Now, in freedom, God says to rest on the seventh day.

How many of you find it hard to rest?

There is so much you are responsible for and only so much time to get it done. I remember my own mother wouldn’t even sit to watch a show or movie with us, but rather, she would stand and finish folding laundry or something else productive while it was playing.

Many people struggle with the idea of resting on Sabbath. They don't want to be told to rest on a certain time, for a specific period. They feel, as poet William Ernest Henley captured in *'Invictus,'* when he wrote, *"I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul."*

In other words, I am in control of how I spend my time. But we need to allow God to wrest control and rescue us out of our Egypt and put us back into Eden, as much as it is possible until Yeshua restores all things.

However, ceding a day to God's control is easier said than done. Towards the end of Isaiah 58, God calls His people to rest as He has called them to. I'm not calling for us to build layers of restrictions on the Sabbath as the leaders had done by the time Yeshua had come onto the scene. Rather, I would like to urge all of us to make every intention and focus of the day to be about resting in the joy of the Lord and within His community.

Even in the busiest seasons of our lives, when everything in you screams that you need to keep "doing," - God tells us, "Trust me and rest. Be refreshed!"

How are we to be refreshed? Look to the Ten Commandments. The first two commandments are as follows:

-I am Adonai your God, who brought out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

-You shall have no other gods before me.



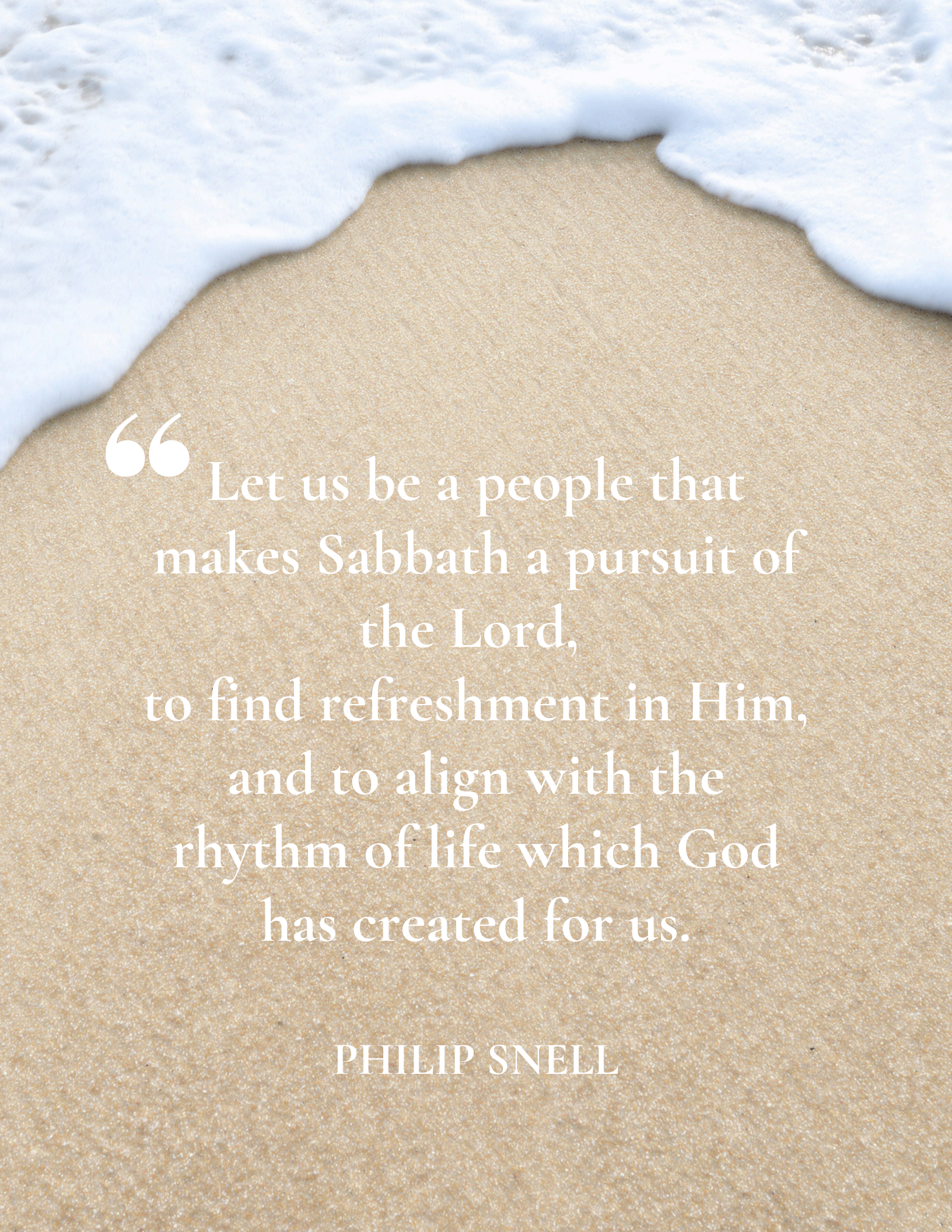
Before we get to His command to keep Shabbat, God emphasizes the priority of His presence, as the one who brought Israel from a life of restlessness, to one of freedom and rest. And that rest comes by focusing on Him. Refreshment is to worship our Creator.

Even our daily work best flows out of this time of refreshment in the Lord. Recall the pattern of creation, “It was evening and morning.” In ancient cultures, without artificial light, there was little work in the dark. A day beginning at sunset would start with a meal and fellowship. After the night’s rest, work would begin. The pattern of creation was to work from a place of rest. What kind of a paradigm shift might it be in our life to allow your work to flow from a place of worship and rest?

God intended for us to enjoy this pattern of refreshment. Rest and gathered worship precedes work. Rest and worship one day and work six. Rest, fellowship and worship together with your family each evening and then get up and be productive each morning.

Let us be a people that makes Sabbath a pursuit of the Lord, to find refreshment in Him, and to align with the rhythm of life which God has created for us. Be a worshiper before working. Let Yeshua, not Pharoah, be Lord of your life!





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PHILIP SNELL



TIKKUN'S BEST KEPT SECRET?

JACK JACOBS

My parents, Ben, and Shirley Jacobs were founding members of our synagogue in Bergen County, NJ, Temple Sinai. However, the very first recollection I had, as a young boy in the 1950s, of attending services was in a beautiful Presbyterian Church. Why? Our synagogue was in the process of being built and we needed a place to have our services. So, there I was with my parents in awe of the magnificent stained-glass windows, the sights and

sounds in this local church who had opened up their doors to us while our synagogue was under construction.

Fast forward to 1981 when I came to believe in Yeshua HaMashiach and, once again, the local church played a vital role for our Messianic congregation's well-being and growth. Our congregation relied upon the good graces of the local church to open up their doors for us to have our Saturday morning Shabbat services.



Over several years we moved around a bit, forming relationships and being hosted by several local churches. Finally, in 1995, we came to settle into our own synagogue, Beth Am Messiah, in New City, NY.

Now, to fast forward to the present and a personal word about my wife, Kate, and myself. Kate and I both had milestone birthdays - a several months ago. Kate turned a very young 80 on January 1st and I turned a somewhat young 75 this last December 24th. Both of us are blessed with overall good health.

We were overjoyed when Rabbi Aharon and Zhenya Mendez arrived to relieve me of my senior leader responsibilities back in April 2020. At that time, New York was the epicenter of the COVID pandemic in the United States. In fact, there were only five people on their plane flight from Dallas to New York. By God's amazing grace, as most congregations experienced hardship during the pandemic, Beth Am Messiah prospered tremendously under Rabbi Aharon's leadership, Baruch HaShem!

However, a terrible tragedy struck the Mendez family in the loss of two daughters in the span of fourteen months. It was in July 2022 that Rabbi Aharon and Zhenya left New York for a year-long healing sabbatical. The Lord made it clear to Kate and I that we were to return to senior leadership in July 2022, after nearly two and a half years of retirement from our responsibilities in Beth Am Messiah.

Kate and I went on to serve for a full year while the Mendez's were away, and, I might add that we served the congregation with a strength of commitment by God's great grace. After the sabbatical year came to an end, in July 2023, it was apparent that the Mendez's were not sufficiently healed to return to senior congregational leadership. We fully understood that after experiencing such devastating losses, who (but God) could put a timetable on their healing.

As a congregation, we were at a crossroads in July of 2023, with the unanswered question of Rabbi Aharon's return. For Kate and I, we also were at the place where the prospect of continuing on as we had been doing was daunting. In seeking the Lord, it was clear to both of us after fulfilling a full year's commitment to senior leadership, it was no longer His will for us to continue on at the same pace we had been.

The unanswered question was "what should we do," so we and the congregation prayed. With Rabbi Aharon's knowledge and consent, we began to reach out to see if there was someone else who could take over the senior leadership responsibilities. We quickly found out that there were more older leaders looking for replacements than capable candidates. To say the least, we were disheartened not knowing what to do. Yet we believed, in prayer, that our faithful Lord would somehow provide. Here is our testimony of what unfolded.



It was only a year earlier, at the 2022 Tikkun Restore Conference, that a new America ministry, Chaverut Tikkun, was launched that I was blessed to participate in. As some of you may recall, Chaverut Tikkun officially recognizes church relationships that have wonderfully developed to a very high level. The recognition of the first Chaverut Tikkun relationship also took place at the 2022 Restore Conference. It was between Tikkun America, Beth Am Messiah and Eastern Gate House of Prayer led by Pastor Gary DePasquale.

Back to our senior leadership dilemma at the end of July 2023. I happened to be spending time in Pastor Gary's office at Eastern Gate, simply catching up with each other, listening to one another concerning our various strengths and challenges within both of our ministries. Pastor Gary began by sharing some of his struggles. Then, I described the major trial I was experiencing in continuing on indefinitely as the senior leader. However, one of the areas of strength in Beth Am Messiah was our finances. We even were able to cover Rabbi Aharon's salary during his one-year sabbatical, praise the Lord!

What happened next was with Pastor Gary is what I refer to as Tikkun's best kept secret. It's the power of godly love through deep relationships with the local churches. This is the potential Chaverut Tikkun holds for all of us. Pastor Gary looked me with eyes with genuine concern and asked me what



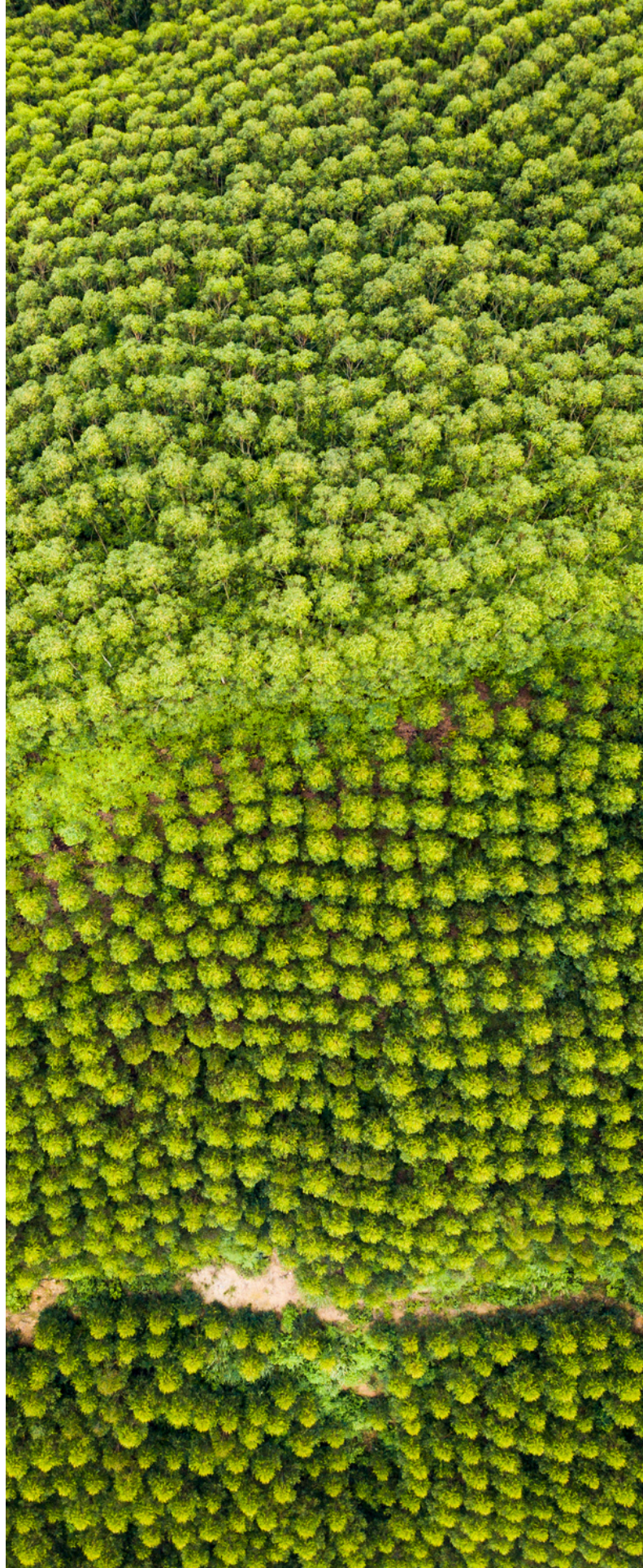
the most taxing part of my responsibilities was in leading Beth Am Messiah. Without hesitation, I said preparing the weekly messages for every Shabbat service. Pastor Gary and I both describe what happened next as the Ruach HaKodesh breaking into our conversation. I asked Gary if it might be possible for him to help us out, perhaps provide Beth Am Messiah with some of the weekly sermons (Pastor Gary is an exceptionally gifted preacher and teacher). Little did I know in that "God moment" of what would transpire in the week after our meeting.

Pastor Gary took time seeking the Lord in prayer with his wife, Donna. Eastern Gate is a vibrant faith community that has several significant ministries which Pastor Gary oversees. These ministries include various resources which they offer to their community and beyond. I should also mention that the drive between Eastern Gate and Beth Am Messiah is a full hour.

As Pastor Gary describes his decision-making process, he initially settled on helping us out with preaching for about a month. Then he came to settle on helping for three months while we would continue to try and find a new leader. This is where Donna was instrumental, as she heard further from the Lord. What Donna heard from the Lord was that nothing of significance is birthed in less than nine months. It was confirmed at the end of July 2023, that Pastor Gary would come alongside me and Beth Am Messiah for nine months. This amazing commitment was not just as a pulpit preacher, but also in offering his time and availability to our leadership team. This was an amazing blessing of provision for Kate and I personally, and to Beth Am Messiah as a congregation!

The following nine months, since August 2023, were exceedingly blessed of the Lord, all due to Chaverut Tikkun. The mutual blessings unfolded in a way that I never imagined. Beth Am Messiah and Eastern Gage began having some joint services. The outpouring of God's presence was palpable in the level of love and unity we experienced. I am very blessed to have tasted and seen what I believe is found in both Ephesians 2:14-16, referred to as the One New Man, and the glory expressed by Yeshua in His prayer to the Father in John 17:20-23.

Rabbi Aharon and Zhenya experienced a significant breakthrough in healing that took place in August 2023.



At the urging of Dan and Patty Juster, they attended a healing conference led by Randy Clark in Oklahoma. It was at this conference, especially through Dr. Mike Hutchings, where they received a strong increase in God's healing.

Last fall the Mendez's prayerfully made the decision, confirmed by several leaders including Dan and Patty, to return to leadership at Beth Am Messiah. That decision was solidified over the next several months. Their return was on April 1, 2024, exactly the same day, four years earlier, that they first arrived in New York to lead Beth Am Messiah.

Pastor Gary's nine-month commitment to Beth Am Messiah ended on the final Shabbat in April. We can now clearly see how the Lord has orchestrated the timing. The first few weeks in April, while Pastor Gary was still with us, provided the Mendez's the wherewithal to gradually settle in and reestablish themselves with us.

Our final service with Pastor Gary was on April 27, 2024, and it included a large number of saints joining us from Eastern Gate. There were so many in attendance that we had an overflow of people watching the services on our downstairs monitor. We prayed over Rabbi Aharon and Zhenya and then Rabbi Aharon preached for the first time since his return. Totally unplanned, April 27th was also the birthday of the Mendez's first child, Livnat Sapirah, who went home to be with the Lord in 2022. This service was powerfully blessed by the Lord.



There's surely much more I could share with you about God's great faithfulness during this past season. Suffice it to say, we have been greatly favored in large part, I believe, due to the what I have personally experienced as Tikkun's best kept secret, Chaverut Tikkun.

As for you, especially all my brothers and sisters in Tikkun America, I am interested in hearing about your relationships with local churches. Perhaps, these relationships are heading toward formal recognition through Chaverut Tikkun. If so, I am available to answer any questions or be of any assistance I can. Last, but certainly not least, the following is our Chaverut Tikkun document, "Our Declaration of Dependence," which I signed at the Restore Conference in 2022, along with Ben Juster and Pastor Gary.

OUR DECLARATION OF DEPENDENCE

Chaverut Tikkun is a partnership of churches and house of prayer ministries relationally connected to Tikkun America.

Our Chaverut Tikkun relationship with Tikkun America is a spiritually interdependent one that is best described in Romans as the Gentiles being grafted into the olive tree alongside the natural Jewish branches thus becoming partakers of the root of the olive tree with its richness (Romans 11:17). We humbly perceive Chaverut Tikkun as partial fulfillment to Yeshua's prayer for unity in John chapter 17 and the "one new man" of Ephesians 2:14.

Doctrinally, we fully embrace Tikkun America's "What We Believe" statement of faith. We are in overall agreement with Dan Juster's "The Five Pillars" theological article representing Tikkun America's view on the Kingdom of God and its position on eschatology. From this position of unity, we declare our shared dependence upon God's great mercy, grace and covenant promises as we work together for the restoration of Israel, the church and the Nations.

Our deepening relationship with Tikkun America began with Beth Am Messiah and has grown significantly, with mutual blessing, leading up to our desire to become Chaverut Tikkun. Through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, we seek to advance the Kingdom of God as Chaverut Tikkun alongside Tikkun America, including an ever-expanding relationship to Israel with Tikkun Global.

With a sincere heart of gladness, we pledge to fulfill our part of the biblical calling to the Jewish people as described by the Apostle Paul in Romans chapter 11 which is directed to all Gentile believers. This calling likewise broadly includes the "7 Affirmations" as set forth by Toward Jerusalem Council II.

Regarding the sharing of our resources, we are dependent upon the Lord's leading, being mindful that giving should be from the "heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2nd Corinthians 9:7).

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Chaverut
Tikkun
Tikkun's Best
Kept Secret

JACK JACOBS

Our Congregations



Arizona

BETH MAYIM CHAYIM
bethmayimchayim.org

YESHUA HA'MASHIACH
yeshua-hamashiach.org

BETH EMANUEL
bethemanuelaz.org

California

BETH DAVID
bethdavidmc.org

BETH SHALOM
bethshalomcorona.com

Colorado

OR CHAIM
or-chaim.com

Florida

BEIT HALLEL
beithallelocala.org

ELIM CONGREGATION
ElimMessianicCongregation.org

Illinois

NEW JERUSALEM HOUSE OF
PRAYER
newjerusalem.net

Kansas

KINGDOM LIVING
MAMLACHA CHAI
kingdomlivingkc.org

Kansas

REMNANT OF ISRAEL
shalomwichita.com

Maryland

EL SHADDAI
escfrederick.com

ROSH PINA
roshpina.life

New York

ADAT CHAIM
adatchaim.net

BETH AM MESSIAH
bethammessiah.org

North Carolina

KOOM HOUSE OF WORSHIP
koomhouseofworship@gmail.com

Pennsylvania

BEIT SIMCHA
beitsimcha.com

SHORESH DAVID
shoreshdavid.com

Tennessee

B'RIT HADASHA
brithadasha.org

SHOMAIR YISRAEL
syknox.org

Virginia

OHEV YISRAEL
ohovyisrael.org

TIKVAT ISRAEL
tikvatisrael.com

Washington DC

AHAVAT YESHUA
ahavat.org

Wisconsin

BETH MESSIAH
bethmessiah.us

Canada

SHALOM RESTORATION
FELLOWSHIP
shalomrestorationfellowship.ca

TEMPLE YESHUA
templeyeshua.com

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chodmontreal@gmail.com

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