

Notes: October 20, 2012

Start: 10 AM

Order of service:

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tovv
4. Open in Prayer for service
5. Announcements
6. Jeri - Drash
7. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
8. Praise and Worship Songs
9. Dismiss Children
10. Message
11. Kaddash - Time of Prayer
12. Aaronic Blessing
13. Kiddush
14. Oneg

New format – nursery, Shabbat class for kids
Oneg sign up
Visitor cards – fold and put in Tzadakah box

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: Our Destination – To Maturity

Last week I spoke about no one being an island and recognizing the maturity of a believer.

How do we identify maturity of a believer?

- Even the most mature of believers will still seek counseling from a leader, regardless...
- Be accountable
- Seek confirmation

In preparing His talmadim, Yeshua made this statement:

Mat 10:24 "A talmid is not greater than his rabbi, a slave is not greater than his master.

Mat 10:25 It is enough for a talmid that he become like his rabbi, and a slave like his master.

To become like someone is in essence taking on their teachings, their characteristics, yet not becoming them in every aspect.

I hope to become like Rabbi Frank, the one who I consider to be my mentor, the one I sought to come under and train. My intent is not to become him, but to learn from his experience and apply it to guiding this congregation as it continues to grow and further expresses its vision to be the light of Messiah to the Jewish community.

We are talmidim (students) with the purpose of learning something. Once we have learned it, the next step is to apply what we have learned.

Now the question I want to attempt to answer is – How do we get there? How do we attain maturity as a believer in Messiah?

If you are to journey someplace, you must know at least two things:

1. Where you are – place of origin.
2. What is your destination? Sometimes your destination isn't always clear at first, but knowing that there is a destination because there is a journey will do for now.

My experience...

Likely, what you think is your final destination isn't truly your final destination, but another phase of your ongoing journey towards Adonai's final destination.

Once you know those two things, then the challenging part begins...

- How do we get there from here?

So, what is our destination?

Looking back, it is easier to notice and realize than when we first started. Is it not to be like Messiah in order to reach our final destination?

In the church they call it to be Christ-like. The equivalent is Messianic – to become like Messiah.

The gospels provide us with insight into the life of Yeshua

- Who He is...
 - Lamb of Adonai
 - Son of Adonai
 - King of Israel
 - Promised Messiah
 - Servant
 - Priest
 - Prophet
 - Adonai in human form

- What He is teaching
 - The Kingdom of Adonai
 - The true intent of Torah and how it relates to Him
- What our purpose is as His talmadim
 - To live and convey all that we have been taught
 - To be citizens / representatives of His Kingdom

What can we learn from Yeshua...

1. Learn to follow:

He ultimately was following the one who had sent Him:

Mat 10:40 "Whoever receives you is receiving me, and whoever receives me is receiving the One who sent me.

Any talmid must be willing to submit to the one who is teaching.

Don't be afraid to ask questions. This is how we process what we learn.

2. Confrontation happens and is often necessary

Knowing that you will be confronted about what you believe before you know it will ultimately help you prepare for confrontation.

Yeshua was confronted countless times.

His Talmadim were confronted.

It is safe to say you will be confronted. It is not something to fear, so long as you have embraced Messiah and are committed to Him.

Why is it necessary?

- It is a means of testing
- It is a means of confirmation
- It is a means of affirmation (building upon)

3. A balance of trust and facts are required:

Joh 2:13 It was almost time for the festival of Pesach in Y'hudah, so Yeshua went up to Yerushalayim.

Joh 2:14 In the Temple grounds he found those who were selling cattle, sheep and pigeons, and others who were sitting at tables exchanging money.

Joh 2:15 He made a whip from cords and drove them all out of the Temple grounds, the sheep and cattle as well. He knocked over the money-changers' tables, scattering their coins;

Joh 2:16 and to the pigeon-sellers he said, "Get these things out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market?"

Joh 2:17 (His talmidim later recalled that the Tanakh says, "Zeal for your house will devour me." (Psalm 69:10)

Joh 2:18 So the Judeans confronted him by asking him, "What miraculous sign can you show us to prove you have the right to do all this?"

Joh 2:19 Yeshua answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up again."

Joh 2:20 The Judeans said, "It took 46 years to build this Temple, and you're going to raise it in three days?"

Joh 2:21 But the "temple" he had spoken of was his body.

Joh 2:22 Therefore, when he was raised from the dead, his talmidim remembered that he had said this, and they trusted in the Tanakh and in what Yeshua had said.

The source of our facts are found in the Tenach and through what Yeshua said.

Our trust is in believing that what has been written and said are true.

The length of the journey will be different for everyone. What are you to take with you on your journey?

- The Word of Adonai.
- Commitment
- Persistence
- Patience
- Prayer

As believers, we ultimately are not traveling alone but have a travel companion, our navigator, in the Ruach ha Kodesh.

It is ultimately the journey that leads to maturity, so long as we...

- Remain committed
- Remain persistent
- Remain patient
- Continue in prayer

Today I have been speaking about believers pursuing and obtaining maturity as believers and followers in Messiah.

What if you are not a believer?

Consider this being further along in your journey.

What changes is the starting point of one's journey.

That I will talk about next week.