

# Sisters for Yah

## FAR BE IT FROM ME!

We find a really interesting verse in 1 Samuel 12:23, which tells us: *Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against Yahweh in ceasing to pray for you; but I will teach you the good and right way.*

It can be tempting at times to give up on Yahweh's people! They are so flawed and imperfect and can be so sinful, yet they are His people. Remember, Samuel had thoroughly warned the Israelites of the dangers in appointing a king over Israel. Yet, Israel, wanted to be just like the nations around them, insisting that they were willing to pay any price. Well, just look at the world now. We are still paying that steep price for a bad decision made thousands of years ago.

Almost as soon as the people were granted their desire, they recognized their sin. But it was too late. What was Samuel to do? They had ignored his warnings. Now they wanted him to continue to minister to them. It would seem appropriate for Samuel to abandon them, would it not, and allow them to suffer the consequences of their actions?

But Samuel knew, as Yahshua knew, that Yahweh sends His servants to the sick not to the healthy. (See Matthew 9:12). Samuel did not take the people's response as a rejection of him, but as an indication of their walk with Yahweh. Samuel was serving Yahweh, not the Israelites. He was a Yahweh-pleaser, not a people-pleaser. When Yahweh commanded him to minister to them, Samuel could do nothing else, despite their resistance to his message.

At times, people will not respond as they should to the message Yahweh speaks through His servants (us). But we must avoid falling into discouragement. It is a reflection of their relationship with Yahweh. Ultimately, they are rejecting Him, not us. We are, indeed, Yahweh's servants. If Yahshua spent His time with the spiritually needy, we can expect Him to ask us to do the same. Don't lose patience with Yahweh's people. Never forget that Yahweh loves them as much as He loves you. We must also remember that we are not perfect; therefore we cannot expect others to be perfect either. But we must be committed to *striving* toward perfection.

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**"SPEAK,  
for your  
SERVANT  
is listening."**

1 SAMUEL 3:10, NRSV



## The Key to Prosperity

There is only one way to ensure that we prosper in what we do: serve Yahweh with all our hearts! 2 Chronicles 31:21, says: *And in every work that he began in the service of the house of Yahweh in the law and in the commandment, to seek his Elohim, he did it with all his heart. So he prospered.*

Let's look at Hezekiah, king of Judah. He lived in a very dangerous and tumultuous time. Hezekiah faced some powerful enemies. Idolatry was the popular religion of the day. Even his parents had rejected Yahweh and encouraged people to worship other deities. (See 2 Chronicles 28, entire chapter.) Hezekiah had the opportunity to reject Yahweh as well, yet he chose to serve Yahweh with all of his heart. He did everything in his power to promote worship of the True Elohim. Hezekiah diligently followed Yahweh's commandments. As a result of his determination to serve Yahweh, Yahweh blessed him. Hezekiah thrived in an unsettled time because he re-

solved to follow Yahweh, despite popular opinion.

Yahweh will honor the heart that commits to follow Him, 2 Chronicles 26:5. In times, when worshipping Yahweh is not in vogue and when the forces of the day oppose Him, it takes courage and resolve to seek after Yahweh. Indeed, Yahweh is pleased to prosper those who strive to please Him rather than seek the approval of people (1 Samuel 2:30). Hezekiah stands in stark contrast to Rehoboam, an earlier king of Judah. It is said of Rehoboam that "he did evil, because he did not prepare his heart to seek Yahweh" (2 Chronicles 12:14). When we do not set our hearts to seek Yahweh, calamity is the inevitable result. The surest way to prosper in our endeavors is to diligently pursue Yahweh's will.

## MOTIVES

So Yahshua answered and said to him, "*What do you want Me to do for you?*" (Mark 10:51)

It is hard to believe that our Master Yahshua would ask us, "What can I do for you?" However, sometimes that is exactly the question we must answer. Bartimaeus was blind, and he knew exactly what he wanted Yahshua to do for him: restore his sight. Yet he received much more than physical sight! He also received the offer of salvation, for Yahshua knew that Bartimaeus' heart was faithful. Bartimaeus immediately used his gift to become a follower of the Master.

Yahshua also asked James and John what they wanted Him to do for them. They requested the most prominent places in His Kingdom. This time, Yahshua answered that He could not give them what they asked. Their request was painfully and obviously selfish. Only when we pray according to Yahweh's will is He pleased to grant our requests (John 15:16). We will not see any answers if we ask selfishly (James 4:3). We need to evaluate our motives carefully before asking. We can also examine ourselves for unconfessed sins. And we can ask Yahweh for the faith to believe that He will grant our petitions.



## VICTORY ONE STEP AT A TIME

When Yahweh led His people into the Promised Land, He did so step by step. If He had allowed them to annihilate their enemies at once, the land would have become too difficult to manage. So He had allowed some of the enemies to remain for a time in order to maintain the land and suppress the wildlife. In Deuteronomy 7:22, we read, *And Yahweh your Elohim will drive out those nations before you little by little; you will be unable to destroy them at once, lest the beasts of the field become too numerous for you.*

In doing so, Yahweh taught His people to trust Him step by step. He gave them only as much responsibility as they could handle at one time. As Yahweh leads us in our growth, He will allow challenges that match our character and relationship to Him. Yahweh will not totally change your character at once when you become a believer. Rather, He will lead us through a process to become more like His Son. He will keep working in an area of your life until it is controlled by the power of the Holy Spirit. We may eagerly desire maturity in every area of our characters, but steady, gradual growth is more lasting.

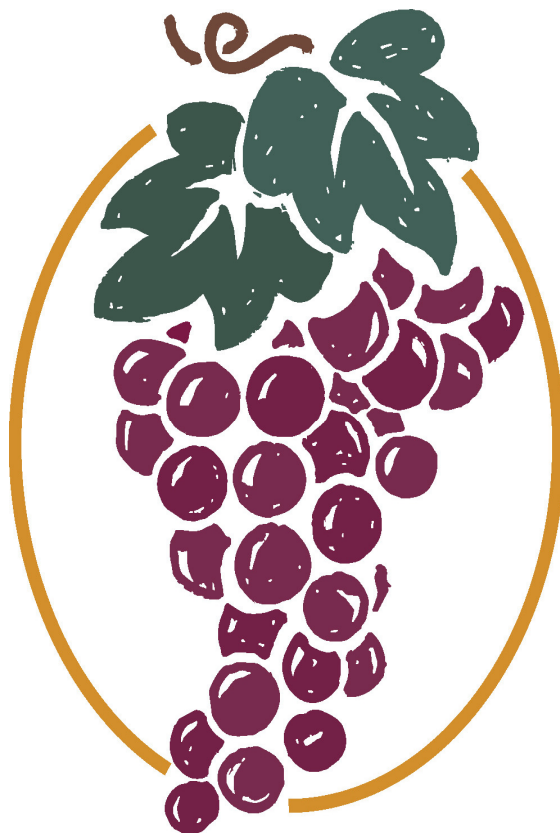
Yahweh will not take shortcuts in His process of making us like Yahshua. He sees our lives from eternity and will take as long as necessary to produce lasting spiritual growth in us. Don't become impatient while Yahweh is producing Yahshua-likeness in us. It's a bad idea to seek more responsibilities than those He has given you. Obey all that you know He has asked, and He will lead you at a pace that fits your present character and His Purposes for you. Some people require more time than others, especially those who were abused in their lives. There is ample scientific research finding that the brains of abused people are significantly different than those who were not abused. In addition, those who live in war-torn countries are facing the same challenges to spiritual growth. But Yahweh is Sovereign. No matter what your childhood was, or where you live, He can still work with you according to His perfect plan.



## The Blessing of Standing with Others

Ecclesiastes is one of my favorite books. I love Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 which says, *Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to those him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up.*

From the beginning, we see that Yahweh did not want people to be alone (Gen. 2:18). He wanted community right from the start. During difficult times, it is critical that we are walking in fellowship with other believers. When a crisis hits, it is overwhelming to face it alone. We realize that many on our mailing list are isolated, and alone in their areas. Our hearts go out to those in this situation, but we also know that they are not truly alone. Yahweh is right there with them. We encourage everyone to watch our live broadcast every Sabbath. People have told us what a blessing and a difference it makes to them in their isolation! Some have told us they feel like they are right here with us as they sing along to the songs of praise. May Yahweh bless and comfort all those who are in this situation.





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## Frozen Hot Chocolate

- 1 cup chocolate chips
- 2 T. sugar
- 1 1/2 cups milk, regular or vegan
- 3 cups ice
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1 t. vanilla extract
- 1/4 cup marshmallow fluff (look for kosher certification on the jar)
- 1/4 cup hot fudge sauce

On low heat, melt the chocolate chips and heavy cream together, mixing gently with a spatula. Allow to cool. Put it all in a blender, and blend until well incorporated.



## Super Easy Chicken Fettucine Alfredo

- 1 package fettucine pasta (16 ounces)
- 2 pounds chicken breast, cut into chunks
- 2 T. oil or butter
- 1 t. salt, or to taste
- 1/2 t. pepper, or to taste
- 4 cups heavy cream
- 2 cups shredded parmesan

1. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add the fettucine and boil for about 8 minutes. Drain and set aside.
2. Heat the oil or butter. Add the chicken and saute' until chicken is cooked through.
3. Add heavy cream and parmesan and salt and pepper. Heat through. Mix in the fettucine. Serve hot with crusty bread and a tossed salad on the side.



## Fast gluten-free Pancakes

- 1 ripe banana
- 1/3 cup almond flour
- 2 eggs
- 1 pinch kosher salt
- Butter to cook
- Syrup, to serve

Mash together the first 4 items. Melt butter in skillet. Drop by tablespoons. Cook both sides.

