

Sisters for Yah

Seeking Yahweh

Our response to Yahweh greatly determines His presence in our lives. If we seek Him with all our hearts, we will find Him (see Jeremiah 29:13-14). I also like 2 Chronicles 15:2, which says, *Yahweh is with you while you are with Him, If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you.*

Yahweh, of course, wants to have fellowship with us, but He won't force a relationship upon us. We cannot reject fellowship with Yahweh and expect Him to remain near. He does not merely follow us throughout our day in case we need help with something. The scary thing is this: If we continue to forsake Him, a time will come when we will desperately need Him, but He won't be near (read Isaiah 59:1-2).



It is important that we build our relationship with Yahweh now. Times are getting scary and difficult. We all see a change in our world that is alarming. Things are just not the way they should be. One person remarked recently, "The good old days are gone! Things in this world will never be the same!" I completely agree.

We should never treat Yahweh like He is a servant who should wait upon us. We are HIS servants. Yahweh will relate to us on His terms, not ours. He desires a close walk with us. And He will make His presence real and personal if that is our desire. If we repent and seek Yahweh on His terms, we can look forward to intimate fellowship with Him (James 4:8-10). We are to continually seek Him. Don't be content going day by day without the assurance that Yahweh is there.

I find it interesting that so many people say that they want to experience Yahweh's presence in their lives, but at the same time their actions reveal otherwise. Are we really seeking Him if we neglect prayer and Bible study? I think not. If our actions reveal that we are genuinely seeking Yahweh, then He promises that we will find Him! See Matthew 7:7 for proof.

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Working alone?

We find an interesting Scripture in Exodus 18:14, which says, *So when Moses' father-in-law saw all that he did for the people, he said, "What is this thing that you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit, and all the people stand before you from morning until evening?"*

Oftentimes, in our zeal to please Yahweh and advance His Kingdom, we sometimes take on responsibilities that Yahweh never intended us to have. One of our greatest challenges is determining what Yahweh does NOT want us to do. Our intentions may be admirable, of course. We love Yahweh, we love His people, and we see many needs around us. But sometimes our good intentions cause more harm than good.

One of the hardest things for believers to understand is that Yahweh is not calling everyone at this time. We have seen new believers aggressively try to convert their co-workers, friends, and family members. We longtime believers have come to realize how pointless this is. It is one thing to plant a seed, but entirely another thing to try to use the Bible as a weapon to convert uninterested people.

I think of Moses and the challenges he faced with the Israelites. He most likely had to settle many disputes among them. Someone had to help those former slaves learn to live together in freedom. And Moses took it upon himself to do so. I can just imagine the long lines of people who stood waiting to present their case before Moses. Poor Moses probably felt the weight of the world on his shoulders. Finally, his father-in-law witnessed what Moses was doing, and rightly challenged the wisdom of this. People burn out when they are overwhelmed. Moses was taking on more than he could handle. He was wearing himself out trying to do what was impossible for one person. So others were appointed to help Moses.

Believers like to help, which is great. But we need to remember that we are to help with needs rather than wants. Food and clothing are needs. Expensive clothing, jewelry, fancy cars, and cell phones are not. Let Yahweh lead you in helping others. And ask for help in helping others.

Anger Management



DEPART FROM EVIL, AND DO GOOD;
SEEK PEACE,
»» AND ««
PURSUE IT.

PSALM 34:14, KJV

Psalm 37:8: Stop your anger! Turn from your rage! Do not envy others — it only leads to harm.

Proverbs 19:11: People with good sense restrain their anger; they earn esteem by overlooking wrongs.

Ephesians 4:26: Don't sin by letting anger gain control over you. Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry.

Ephesians 4:31: Get rid of all bitterness, rage, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of malicious behavior.

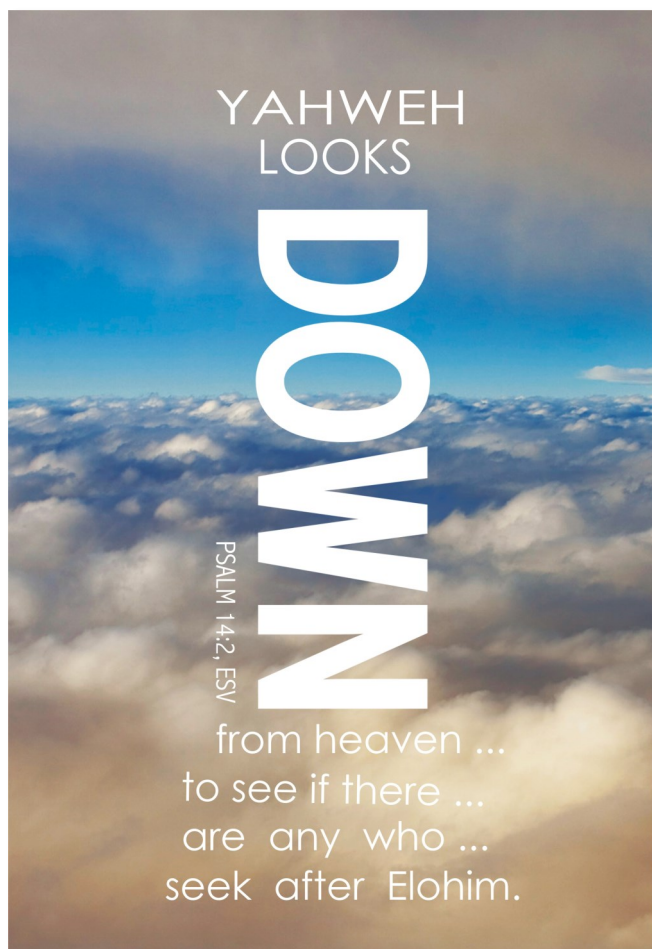
A second time

Jonah didn't like the assignment Yahweh gave him. Jonah was directed to leave his homeland and go to the enemy city of Nineveh, a hostile and evil center of idol worship. I can already tell from reading the account that I, too, would not have liked that assignment! There, Jonah was to warn the people of Yahweh's impending judgment and urge them to repent. The Hebrews hated the people of Nineveh, so Jonah fled in the opposite direction, perhaps hoping for a different assignment. Yahweh instead spoke to him a second time (see Jonah 3:1). Yahweh was determined that His word to Jonah would be obeyed (Isa. 55:11). Yahweh's second message was the same as the first. However, during the interval, Jonah had been pounded by storms and had traveled in the belly of a great fish for three days. This time he was prepared to hear Yahweh again.

Yahweh also spoke to the prophet Jeremiah two times (read Jeremiah 33:1-3). But Jeremiah accepted Yahweh's Word to him the first time. The second time, Yahweh spoke to him was to give him a fuller revelation of what was expected.

Have you ever felt compelled by Yahweh to do something you just didn't feel like doing? I know I have. Sometimes if we obey His first directive, Yahweh will give us a fresh and deeper understanding of His will (Matt. 25:23).

We must examine our obedience often. We need to pray to be like Jeremiah. Properly responding to Yahweh is not always easy. Being pulled out of our comfort zones can be painful and unsettling. But with Yahweh's help we can do anything that He tells us to do.



Bad Expectations

Psalms 10:6: They say to themselves, "Nothing bad will ever happen to us! We will be free of trouble forever!"

Isaiah 33:1: You expect others to respect their promises to you, while you betray your promises to them, Now, you too, will be betrayed and destroyed.

Ezekiel 33:13: When I tell righteous people that they will live, but then they sin, expecting their past righteousness to save them, then none of their good deeds will be remembered. I will destroy them for their sins. (Note: It is erroneous to expect to live in sin without consequences.)

2 Corinthians 11:7: Did I do wrong when I humbled myself and honored you by preaching the Good News to you without expecting anything in return? (Note: We should not expect to be rewarded by others for serving Yahweh and obeying Him).

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Super fast Taco Soup

2 cans black beans, rinsed and drained
1 jar thick and chunky salsa
4 cups cooked chicken
1 box chicken broth (32 ounces)
1 bag frozen bell peppers and onions.
Toppings, optional: shredded cheese,
sour cream, and corn chips

Blend one of the canned beans with the salsa. Put everything in a big pot and simmer about 10 minutes. Ladle into bowls and top with any toppings you desire.



Garlic green beans

3 pounds green beans, ends trimmed
4 slices turkey bacon, thinly sliced.
1 cup butter
4 cloves garlic
1/2 t. lemon zest.



Cut the green beans into smaller pieces. Boil until tender. Drain. Cook the turkey bacon until crispy. Add everything to the pot and heat through.

Chicken Meatballs

1 pound ground chicken or turkey
1 egg
1/2 cup panko breadcrumbs (found in baking aisle)
1/2 cup parmesan
2 T. olive oil
1/2 t. Garlic powder
1/2 t. onion powder
1/2 t. salt
Black pepper, to taste, optional

Line a baking pan with foil and spray with nonstick spray. Mix all the ingredients and form 30 meatballs. Bake about 30 minutes at 400 degrees. Check middle to make sure they are fully cooked all the way.

