

December 18, 1995 Asher

Hope of Change

(*A Letter to Abigail from Yedidah, wife of Yachath*)

Dear Abigail,

You can't imagine how much your letter encouraged me! The day it arrived I was in bed with an infection and your letter was just what I needed to brighten up. I was so moved that you had it on your heart to write. Everything you wrote about children I could relate to so much — of course my experience being an immah is shorter than yours. But in the few years I have had children now I can see how much I am just like a hen — void of any natural instinct of how to raise a child properly. I grew up not knowing how to be a wife and mother, but was taught how to have a career, to be independent and find satisfaction in the many things I could do in society rather than in being a helpmate to my husband and an immah to my children. Clearly I remember how they took home economics out of the curriculum in favor of math and chemistry. As I got older I heard many women saying they didn't want to have children too early in life but enjoy it to the fullest before they got "stuck" with children at home. They would not imagine to find identity in "just" that.

Well now here I am 13 years (in the community), and 3 children later I see how I lack in so many ways both as a wife and as an immah — BUT even though I get in despair many times I have hope now that one day our Father is going to complete the work He has started in me. Often I am comforted with some lines which Berachah wrote long ago, "I am hoping and I *believe* that our ABBA is doing His good work in me, and I know it comes from exposing my withered hand and being humble enough to receive all the correction and instruction which comes ... I am learning to reject discouragement and to believe that Yahshua is doing His good work in me ... alone we can't be the women of Proverbs 31 but *cooperatively* we can."

My feelings often tell me, "You can't change. You are still like you used to be ..." But we *have* to believe we *are* changing and not *deny* our Master and His power to change us. WE ARE CHANGING! Salvation is not unattainable, but a simple love affair of the heart.

Not believing we can overcome is denying our Master Yahshua. Yoneq has been talking about this lately — how we need to confess Yahshua in believing that He has power to save us. If we don't believe He can change us and heal even our deepest wounds we deny Him, deny the very reason He was sent for. Ha-emeq said that always telling yourself that you can't change will hinder your progress; it keeps our Father from pouring out His grace upon us so that we *can* do it.

His strength is perfected in weakness. It is when we are weak, crying out for grace that we are strong because He is released to save us. I'm so thankful for this, Abigail — there is hope even for a basket case like me. We are not left alone with our faults and shortcomings, but we have the Body, brothers and sisters who are always willing to help and support.

Our life has changed since Yoneq and ha-emeq came. They are like a fresh breeze, so full of encouragement, vision, and zeal. I appreciate their objectivity — they help us to come back on the narrow way. Yoneq has been talking about how we need to be *devotees* — devoted to do our ABBA's will, devoted to the:

breaking of bread,  
prayer,  
fellowship,  
teachings of the apostles.

*Devoted* means to be single-minded, focused on a specific purpose without getting distracted. We need to come to the gatherings prepared, earnestly desiring for our Father to speak to us. If we don't come with a desire, a hunger to hear, He won't speak and it will all just become a ritual. It happened in the first church and it can happen to us if we are not devoted. All things can become a ritual if we are not wholehearted. To the outside we go through all the right motions but our heart is not in it. How easy is that to happen? How can the breaking of bread be the highlight of our week when we haven't been devoted every single day before it?

There won't be any thanksgiving gushing forth from us if we weren't seeking Him and depending upon Him during the week. We have to examine ourselves before each breaking of

bread but also before each gathering. Never would a priest enter the Holy of Holies without making sure he was clean. Are *we* making sure we are clean before each minchah, longing for our Father to speak to us? If we neglect the minchah's we will surely wither and die.

Yoneq's vision is encouraging us so much and people are being set free to speak and express what is on their heart. Oil is flowing abundantly; we are learning.

You asked about Klaus and Flower — Flower is Ishah now and our sister since about a year. Klaus never really received us. He is very strong in his own anointing, not willing to surrender. Finally Ishah listened to her heart and gave up her loyalty to Klaus to give it to Yahshua. Since then she is blooming and just about a week ago Yotham and she went on a waiting period. They like each other very much!

Every day brings new excitement and we are seeing a little more about our Father's will for us. Yoneq would like for us to find a smaller house more outside the city where we can raise our children and have cottage industries. He said it wasn't right that the brothers have to work so hard just to pay someone else's mortgage (the rent here is quite high).

I'm thankful I am being saved — my life was so futile, so hopeless, but our Father had an abundance of mercy and delivered me. May we give ourselves to Him that He that He can finish the good work He has started in us. I want Him to have His heart's desire.

Yedidah Nachamah