What is Required to Join Your Community?

*The Seeding of a Community*

Newsletter No.2 of the 2020 Aviv Cycle

Article No.2

The question has been asked, “What is required to join your community”.

I will rephrase this question as, “What is required to join or establish any community that is serious about its Faith?”

The Nazarene sect founded by Yeshua was willing to begin as a minority willing to stand against the status quo of Temple based Judaism. The Protestants were at one time willing to begin as a minority against the status quo of the Catholic church. Likewise, Homosexuals, Moslems, and many others who are greatly influential today in the world all began as small, and often hated, minorities willing to go against the status quo of the culture around them. But today, I have found most believers, even Messianics, are not willing to be radically different than the culture around them.

Me and my wife left some very active ministries on the West Coast to come into a place in the wilderness here in Ohio where God is training us on the importance of taking a stand against the majority who have all syncretized their faith to some degree to fit in with the world and culture around them, Messianics included.

We have come to realize that we are not interested in assimilating with the world, or with its counterfeit Gospels any more. And out here in the wilderness we have no community as yet, but would like to begin one – a radically different one. One that both looks, behaves, and lives differently than the world around us.

One that puts more faith in the provision of God than in government handouts, and that trust in God as their shield and fortress than in guns or self defense. A community that is willing to be ridiculed, name called, and ostracized from society for being too godly for the world’s taste and even for the “church’s” taste, but at the same time sufficiently upright in our integrity, and sound enough in our doctrine, to
where it is evident to even the most vociferous of accusers that God is with us and our Faith not vain.

To be a community that loves in action, not just in emotion; and that desires to see the salvation of all souls willing to believe in our Savior, no matter how repulsive, offensive, or scary their past – and that hates gossiping and slander.

We have no idea if anybody in the West would be interested in helping us to establish such a community – a community not just willing to live for Yeshua, but willing to be persecuted and potentially arrested, tortured, imprisoned, and killed for Yeshua.

So our requirements for joining us to make such a vision a reality in a biblical nutshell is as follows:

1st, like Noah, you must be willing to be a lone pillar of light in a world that is becoming ever more void of light – a world becoming ever darkened by perversion, injustice, corruption, and violence. And like Noah and his family, be part of a very small remnant remaining in the earth that is willing to remain pure and undefiled by the world and surrounding culture.

2nd, like Avraham, you must be of a pioneering spirit, willing to leave your old life and skeptical friends and relatives behind, and begin a new life from scratch with only the promises of God and His Word leading you.

3rd, like Joseph, when with your family, you must be willing to stand for what is right and do what is pleasing to your Father in Heaven, even if it means having everybody you love turn against you and sell you off into slavery. And when among pagans, be willing to do what is right, and do what is pleasing to your Father in Heaven, even if you know it may result in being falsely accused and imprisoned.

4th, like Moshe, you must be willing to face Pharoah and his priests to lead God’s people out of the bondage of false religions, and vain traditions of men, that keep people bound up in lives of sin; and then instruct them in the way of true freedom in Yeshua through Torah while leading them to the Promised Land. And if you started off as a gentile, you must, like the mixed multitude that came out with Israel, be willing to become one with Israel, and then as fellow citizens and heirs follow the same commandments in the covenants that we Israelites are bound to.

5th, like Yehoshua (Joshua), you must be willing to courageously face the giants in the land and cleanse the land of its impurity and idol worship.

6th, Like King David, you must be willing to humble yourself and admit your sins regardless of your position of authority, and be willing to restrain oneself rather than attack or assassinate the character one who has been officially anointed to a position of authority among God’s people.

7th, Like the prophets, must be willing to speak the truth to people so that they might have opportunity to repent, even if they are not willing to hear it – and even if they might stone you for speaking it.
8th, Like Mordecai and Esther, you must be willing to defy the wicked in power with boldness, integrity, fasting, and prayer, and creatively use the laws of the land to our godly advantage whenever possible and opportunity provides.

9th, Like Daniel you must be willing to worship God boldly, even when laws are passed forbidding it, and even if it means being thrown into a den of hungry lions.

10th, Like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, you must be willing to refuse to follow the crowd in doing evil, even if it means being cast into a fiery furnace.

11th, Like Ezra and Nehemia, you must be willing to go back to Israel if God calls us back to the Land.

12th, Like Yeshua who was willing to be persecuted, arrested, falsely accused, tortured and then murdered for our sins, even so, you must be willing to also be persecuted, and potentially arrested, falsely accused, tortured and murdered for the Gospel.

These are the 12 pillars of Nazarene living for anybody who wants to join us on our journey. So far there have been few takers in this nation of predominantly weak believers. Perhaps you are one of the few remaining strong ones? Willing to righteously live for the One who courageously died for you? Willing to courageously die for the One who righteously lived for you?

The Scriptures state that we are to hate even the clothing spotted by the flesh; Yehudah (Jude) 1:23. Are you willing to exchange blue jeans and t-shirts, and form fitting clothing for modest attire that neither reflects worldly styles, nor emphasizes body form?

The Scriptures state not to love the world or the things therein; Romans 12:2; I Yehochanan (I John) 2:15. Are you willing to give up television, movie theater, public sporting events, cell phones, internet, secular college and public education, and dedicate yourself instead to simple living and sharing of the Gospel?

The Scriptures state that we are to be a living sacrifice; Romans 12:1 and to love our enemies; Mattit’yahu (Matthew) 5:44. Are you willing to give up self defense and entrust God totally for the outcome of your life? Willing to potentially go to the slaughter for the sake of the Gospel, rather than send somebody to hell by killing them in order to save your own life in this world?

The Scriptures state to eat Kosher; V’yikra (Leviticus) 11. The world has suffered numerous pandemic plagues over the decades and centuries from eating unclean things. Today’s pandemic of Corona virus is from eating bats. Are you willing to stop eating at restaurants to avoid eating things that have been potentially cross contaminated on the grill, in the ovens, and in the fryers with pig meat and shell fish, civet cat and carmine insect, whale sperm and any number of other forbidden things commonly found in restaurant ingredients?

The Scriptures state that a woman is to veil her head, and that the assembly of believers has no other
tradition than this; I Corinthians 11. This has been the practice of all believers throughout the earth until about 75 years ago when industrialized American believers began removing their veils in the early 20th century. Are you willing to go back to the ancient paths?

The Scriptures state that in the beginning of the Nazarene movement after the resurrection, all sold everything and had all things in common; Ma‘aseh (Acts) 2:44,45. To reinstitute this Nazarene movement in these modern times, are you willing to sell all and give to the common fund to fuel a revival of this movement in our times today?

We are of the Nazarene Faith, not Catholic (the Mother of Harlots), not Reform Catholic (the Protestant daughters of the Mother Harlot). We are not even Messianic (which is essentially the Sabbath and Feast Days and dietary laws wrapped in Protestant theology) – but rather, we are Nazarene, and as such are committed to the ancient paths, and to challenging any doctrine anybody tries to justify and hang onto that is uniquely Catholic and not consistent with the 1st century teachings of Yeshua and His Apostles.

That is, anybody joining us on our journey from the churches must be willing to be challenged, and be willing to circumcise their hearts of all theological Catholic/Protestant baggage hostile to the Torah and inconsistent with and/or contrary to 1st century teachings. And anybody coming out of Judaism must likewise be willing to be challenged and circumcised of any traditions hostile to Faith in Yeshua and inconsistent with and/or contrary to 1st century teachings.

Takers anyone?

The Levite

23 APR 2020