

8/12/2026
Nugget

THE GENUINE'S LIFE EVIDENCES OUR LORD JESUS

Relational Specialness Means Intentionally Dying To Yourself

A Holy Spirit-guided/empowered way of life is promised in the New Covenant.



For the best spiritual benefit, please prayerfully discuss this Nugget with those with you on your faith pilgrimage.

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus our Lord,

We want to fuse the intent of this Nugget with that of the apostle Peter in recalling some key essential points: “[We] seek to remind you...” (2Peter 1:12). First, remember that our heavenly Father is restoring His relational priorities:

- 1.your relationship with Him and our Lord Jesus,
- 2.your relationships in your home,
- 3.your relationships in a fellowship of homes.

(Each of these relationships is **value-based** rather than built on activities or positional roles. Explore insights into various types of relationships by reading 5-28-2024 Prophetic Insight: [The New Covenant: Our Father Offering You A Personal Relationship](#)).

Value-based relationships are the kind that evoke a heartfelt, positive emotional response in you. They’re established through **intentionality** which means you sincerely cherish the specialness of that relationship! You need to note, however, a unique element in your intending to embrace the relationship that’s offered you by the grace of your Father and Jesus in the New Covenant: This specialness requires you to die to who you once were in the flesh and to establish this “new creation” relationship according to biblical guidelines. Recognizing what value-based relationships are may be new to you, so here are three of the best examples:

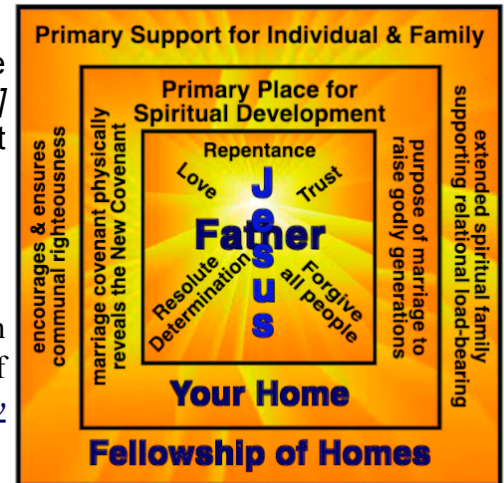
•embracing the New Covenant our Father offers you in Christ, •uniting in a marriage covenant, •becoming part of a Hebraic fellowship family of homes.

Value-based Relationships Originate With Your Father And Our Lord Jesus

Let’s review how special this new family relationship is into which the *genuine* are adopted through the New Covenant:

1.The intentional specialness of your relationship with your Father and Jesus flows from your wholehearted gratefulness for the costly sacrifice of our Lord’s atonement through which your Father forgives your sins. This is the reason **WHY** “*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind*” (Matthew 22:37). God’s Word tells us that the clearest way of expressing your love is to apply His commands to your life: “*If you love Me, you will keep My commandments*” (John 14:15; see also 1John 5:3; apperceived from Deuteronomy 6:5-9; 11:13).

2.If you’re *genuine*, when you embrace the New Covenant you enter into the most special relationship that you cherish above all others: “*Whoever loves father*



or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me” (Matthew 10:37).

3.If you’re *genuine*, you receive the Holy Spirit at your conversion, and because of this you willingly embrace the life purposes for which Father adopted you into His family: “*For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother*” (Matthew 12:50; see also 7:21-23).

Your commitment to these three characteristics of Christ’s family separates the *genuine* from the nominal in Christianity. It’s essential that you understand that the relational priorities which Father is restoring are markedly different than the religious priorities of most nominal Christians. The reason for this dramatic difference is the distinctive purposes our heavenly Father has for those He adopts as His children. Your adoption results in you not only being *genuinely* born again; but also that God in the person of the Holy Spirit takes up residence in you as His temple (see 1Corinthians 6:19,20; 2Corinthians 6:16). Through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit you’re able to do your part in your new family as His son or daughter: “...*you have received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’*” (Romans 8:15; see also 8:16,17; Ephesians 1:5).



Prayerfully consider: Can you express from your heart **WHY** you’re in relationship with our Father and Lord Jesus through the Holy Spirit? If you’re married, **WHY** are you devoted to each other? **WHY** are you in your particular faith family? Your **WHY** reveals the intentionality and specialness of each relationship to you. And lodged within your value-based relationships is the intentionality •to endure personal sacrifice, and •to discuss mutual life goals and purposes with one another.

Dying To Yourself — The *Genuine* Revealing Their Love For Jesus

“If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his execution-stake daily and keep following Me.” (Luke 9:23)



The Bible offers overwhelming evidence that if you’re *genuine*, you need to die to yourself so you can become more like our Lord Jesus as you keep yielding to His Spirit. In dying to yourself, you are discarding your old sin nature-influenced identity and taking on a whole new identity in the likeness of your Lord. Think about your bodily death in this world and your resurrection into a new body in heaven. Now compare this to dying to your old sin nature-dominated motives and goals, and your present “resurrection” into becoming the image of Jesus in this world, “having put on the new man, which is being renewed in full knowledge according to the image of the One creating him” (Colossians 3:10). Your delight in embracing this life transformation is a clear indicator of the intentional specialness you feel toward our Lord. Paul sums it up this way:

“But that is not the way you learned Christ!— if indeed you heard Him and were taught in Him, as the truth is in Jesus, to put off your old self concerning your former conduct which is being corrupted through deceitful lusts, and to be renewed [by the Holy Spirit] in the spirit of your mind, and to put on the new man which was created according to God in true righteousness and holiness” (Ephesians 4:20-24).



When you read, “*Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends*” (John 15:13), was Jesus just speaking of Himself, or speaking in reference to all who would follow Him as Lord? We believe it was spoken to all the *genuine* since we are vividly described as “*loving not our lives even unto death*” (Revelation 12:11).

Let's examine why the need to die to self is so essential in establishing a Hebraic home fellowship. A Hebraic home fellowship is an extended spiritual family. It's relationship based and not a religious system. The biblical fellowship of homes which our Father is restoring is a family of Christ helping each other die to their old self and be transformed into Christ's character. This is an ongoing relationship of love for their Lord and love for one another in Him. While many home fellowships/house churches have popped up in the US in recent decades, in most of these the participants join for social support. Often those who are leading see their role as a Bible teacher rather than as a discipler serving as a **role model** and helping the others mature in their spiritual gifting. Dying to one's self and continuing to grow in doing Father's will is rarely addressed. But the fellowship of homes which our Father is restoring is based on a mutual commitment to each person dying to self and developing Christlike character as you each use the gifting(s) apportioned to you in order to fulfill Father's purposes to His glory.

Keep in mind that the whole biblical truth of dying to one's self rarely if ever comes up in nominal Christianity. That's due to the powerful influence of Humanism and its focus on self-centeredness which pervades much of nominal teaching. All too often Christ is presented as a "life-improver" who helps you be happier and enables you to sidestep responsibility for anyone else.

Meditate on these scriptural truths and be encouraged on the importance of being alert to the Spirit's opportunities for you to die to self and keep being transformed into Christ's likeness:

"Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day" (2Corinthians 4:16).

"But in ourselves we had received the sentence of death, in order that we should not trust in ourselves but on God Who raises the dead" (2Corinthians 1:9).

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared in advance that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:10).

"But now, O LORD, You are our Father; we are the clay, and You are our potter; and we are all the work of Your hand" (Isaiah 64:8; Jeremiah 18:6; apperceived in Romans 9:21).

As you are being transformed by the Spirit in character and in motives, you are increasingly inspired to place others above yourself: *"Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility esteem others better than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others" (Philippians 2:3,4).*

Take a look inside yourself as you think of our Heavenly Father and our Lord Jesus. Ask yourself, "Am I sharing an interactive relationship with our Father and our Lord Jesus through the indwelling Spirit that's as real as I have with anyone on earth who is precious to me?" (And especially recognize the unique specialness in this divine interaction.)



Consider this point too: *If* the only time you personally interact with others in your fellowship family is at a scheduled service or in an organized activity, then you aren't experiencing the relational connectedness that our Father seeks for His kids as extended spiritual family. This applies whether you're in a house church or in a congregation.

Walking In Our Lord's Commands Are His Means Of Christ-like Character Development

We've often emphasized that through our Lord's atonement, He made possible the New Covenant which was first prophesied in Jeremiah 31:31. Since covenant can mean "to live in

union with”, it implies oneness between us and our Lord. Through this covenant of grace, we are offered not just the opportunity for salvation, but also the opportunity to live in union with our heavenly Father's purposes so that He may be glorified through our lives. Significant in this interactive relationship is your ongoing transformation into Christ's character through His indwelling Spirit at work in you as you yield to Him in obedient trust: *“By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey His commandments”* (1John 5:2).

The Holy Spirit uses specific *rhema*, a particular word message that's quickened specifically to you, to guide you in mutually applying to your lives any of the applicable commands in the Older Testament which haven't yet been brought to completion by Jesus, or the 1,050 commands in the Newer Testament. God gives you the power and the will to do this for His good pleasure (Philippians 2:12,13). And as you put into practice these Scripture applications out of grateful loving trust in the One Who gave them, your character is being conformed to that of Jesus. (Many people write down the specific ways in which they put into practice their scriptural *rhemas* so their family, faith community, ministry or business can be reminded of the Spirit's intervention through them).

In Hebrew, each *rhema*-led application is called a *halakhah*. In developing a *halakhah*, you explore the written Word of God about a particular matter and seek the Holy Spirit's wisdom on the situation. The *rhema* the Spirit provides you reveals Father's specific application of Scripture •to build your character and •guide your way of life. The Hebrew root word for *halakhah* is *halak*, which means to walk, or the way you walk. Our Lord Jesus's earliest followers were known as “*the Way*” (Acts 9:2) because their way of life reflected Lord Jesus to others by revealing how they lived out God's commands.

When you are motivated by love for our Lord and for one another, it's His commands and how you put them into practice that are a litmus test for determining if certain attitudes and actions are Christ-like, or if they fall short of Him, or if they are sinful. This is vitally important for your fellowship family in maintaining communal righteousness so that your Father will answer your prayers: *“For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers. But the face of the LORD is against those who do evil [who hold onto unconfessed sin]”* (1Peter 3:12). Knowing that your own actions and attitudes affect the lives and prayer needs of those you are close to in your life journey in our Lord should be a motivating factor in wanting to walk according to the Spirit rather than according to any sinful ways you're clinging to.

Remember too that confronting sin in one another with a redemptive heart is a scriptural enactment of one-anothering in your fellowship family. When our heavenly Father and Lord Jesus hold specialness in your heart, you receive with grace any rebukes and correction which others in your fellowship family share with you. And when out of loving concern you confront darkness in another follower of Jesus with whom you have a value-based relationship, you rarely experience resistance from them. That's because your mutual love for your Father and our Lord Jesus is more than sufficient motivation to rid yourselves of any darkness that may be exposed when you confront unconfessed sin in each other and help each other turn to His way.



Finally, one last point for you to consider. When you're led by our Lord's Spirit, it's humbling because you're not the one who's in control! His timing, what He wants you to do, who He wants you to do it with—it's all under His control, not yours. Only the Holy Spirit within the *genuine* is able to impart the heartfelt devotion of love that our heavenly Father and Lord Jesus deserve (see Galatians 5:22,23). If you're *genuine*, then ask the Spirit to transform you to love as our Lord Jesus would love through you.

