

RESTORATION MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

Jesus In Your Home video series

The Home

Section 3: Segment 4

Topic 1. Are You Hebraic Or Nicolaitan?

Hebraic Practices

Faith Practice

___ Living to glorify our Father in loving, trust-grounded obedience.

___ A 24/7 lifestyle of obedient trust which represents Jesus in the flesh to all you meet; fulfilling His purposes is your prime concern.

___ Personal and communal righteousness is critical for fellowshiping with others; smaller number in homes increases accountability.

___ Personal Doctrine vital: Spirit-directed biblical principles which guide you into a way of life that is fruitful and pleasing to God.

___ Leadership: Older wise men shepherd God's people; personally role model life they teach.

___ Reliance on personal relationships as extended spiritual family.

___ Home-based hospitality reflects Jesus to those yet to believe.

___ Salvation understood as an ongoing pilgrimage with our Lord, bringing about greater conformity to Christ-likeness.

Family

___ Marriage covenant a physical representation of your Covenant with our Father; divorce not an option.

Nicolaitan Practices

Faith Practice

___ Personal gratification and feel-good complacency are your foremost motives.

___ Religious practice occurs at a particular designated building; large numbers and public meeting place reduce accountability.

___ Sin is rarely addressed, and righteousness is not considered vital to fellowship.

___ Denominational Creed vital: cognitive assent to biblical postulates that have little or nothing to do with your *way of life*.

___ Leadership: Seminary-trained younger clergy; emphasize Bible education, not role modeling a way of life; little clergy/lay interaction.

___ Reliance on public building for services; heavy dependence on paid professionals for worship, counsel, activities.

___ Religious practice and daily life separate and compartmentalized.

___ Salvation viewed as a point in time, with little responsibility to change or walk in obedient trust.

Family

___ Marriage a conditional commitment between people; may be broken by divorce.

___ Authority given by God to husband to love and serve his family.

___ Responsibility for raising successors in the faith the primary responsibility of the *parents*.

Ministry to the Hurting

___ Obedience-based, grounded in God's love; if God's Word calls for it, do it. Initial step: bring them to the power of Jesus. Personally responsible to repent—to turn away from sin and come to our Father through Jesus. Only Jesus can heal, no technique ever heals.

___ Stipulate that they confess sins and/or forgive others from their heart, as appropriate.

___ Aim is spiritual heart transformation by the Holy Spirit.

Work Place

___ Regarded as mission field; God puts people in jobs so they may serve His Kingdom.

Outreach

___ Regards neighborhood, workplace and school as mission field of opportunity to reveal Jesus "with skin on".

Charity

___ Purpose: to restore dignity to those in need: "*So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets*" (Matthew 7:12). All interaction with others guided by this foundational biblical principle.

Senior Citizens

___ Have achieved life pinnacle; the wise serve as shepherds and role models; prime representatives of our Father's love for His children.

___ Authority concept and enactment not recognized; often usurped by wives.

___ Spiritual training outsourced to religious system and youth professionals.

Ministry to the Hurting

___ Feelings-based; heavy reliance on psychological technique. Dwells on past to blame other(s) for personal problems. Power of Jesus to heal is optional or irrelevant.

___ Bitterness entertained; often not confronted to point of forgiving and asking forgiveness.

___ Person's sin often overlooked in the counseling process; empathy for their hurt prevails rather than repentance in the Spirit.

___ Aim is modification of behavior and attitude.

Work Place

___ Seen as opportunity for economic gain and personal prestige; compartmentalized away from spiritual opportunity to share or serve.

Outreach

___ Basically unconcerned with people around them, including neighbors and family members. Leave it to the professionals. Keep religion "private".

Charity

___ Purpose: to remove problems; dignity of recipient irrelevant. Financial giving represents total expression of involvement.

Senior Citizens

___ Look to escape from as many responsibilities as conscience will allow; relegated to the outskirts of spiritual responsibility.

Discuss your responses with your family and close friends. If you've found you're more Nicolaitan than Hebraic, don't be too concerned. What's important is that you're convinced that our Father *is* restoring Hebraic understanding to His children. With that foundation the Holy Spirit can do much to help you.