

# MINISTRY NOTES

## SHEVAT 5785

### How to Use This Guide

- 1. Prayerfully proceed** through this document, section by section, as you **Re-Watch** (or watch for the first time) the video highlights **replay**. As you do, **Worship the Lord** with a grateful heart for the light He gives us to advance all month! Do this yourself, with family, or with a prayer partner/ group.
- 2. Ask the Lord** your questions that may arise. Delve into His written word and listen to the Voice and leading of Holy Spirit. **Record** any additional insight and revelation.
- 3. Let this inform** (impact, be included) **what you do** in acts of ministry / kingdom works of service this month. Decree it in the territory, and be the glory-carrying, change-maker vessel of His love, joy, authority, truth, and power He knows you can be!
- 4. Keep a testimony record** of His kindness, love, and power!

### Welcome to the Embassy of Zion!



**Susie:** Welcome to the Embassy of Zion! An Embassy is a delegation of people who are on assignment for a Sovereign or King. We are a delegation on assignment for King Jesus: for our territory to see His Kingdom come, His will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.

Our assignment on *FIRST!* is to honor and celebrate Jesus. We do this at the beginning of every month, stepping into a new timing cycle, a new blessing cycle. We're doing this on behalf of our Troop and our territory! **We seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness.** We are here to honor and praise the Lord Jesus Christ!

Each month is a new revelatory season for us to come together and hear what the Spirit of the Lord is saying to us and make our declaration: **we together are Your people; and You alone are our God!**

We are on a journey together, meaning "traveling from one place to another." In Kingdom Life we're having such an "ahah" of the power of the journey *together*, towards the same destination. It's a strengthening, it's a help, a linking of shields, and being ligament-ed together. That is helping us press through. Let's recognize each other as those that are journeying with us, walking together in His Spirit and the power of His love. "Be humble, be gentle, be patient. Tolerate one another in an atmosphere thick with love." (Ephesians 4:2, VOICE)

### Finishing Well Tevet

**Susie:** Tevet has been a month of testimonies! We have had testimonies on zoom, text, email - He's moving! As I looked at all the testimonies, the one commonality was that God did it. Another was that every testimony started with a TEST. Think about your testimony.

I want to encourage us all: every time a test comes in our lives, we're going to press in together to get to that testimony where we can praise God.

**Kelly Fulton testimony** - recommitment and spiritual growth in her two boys since we've been praying for our children as a Troop. And with her son in high school, answers to prayers for him to understand his identity, where he is going, and trying new things. Major growth. Very grateful!

**Camille testimony** of community of young adults with autism - went out for "Dine and Delight with the Lord." They felt like they belonged, had confidence - laughing and enjoying, engaging, and delighting.

## Finishing Well in Tevet cont'd

### Kathleen's First Fruits Poem for Tevet:

*King Jesus boundless in Glory*

*You ride on the wings of the sky*

*Bringing redemption and deliverance  
right to my side*

*Your breath fills me with life and ends  
the darkness of night*

*King Jesus Your eyes of fire purify  
my sight*

*And in You alone my soul delights*

*By Your Grace and Word, I traverse the  
world unknown*

*Bound by Your endless love, You guide  
me home.*

*King Jesus*

## Revelatory Responses

**Shannon:** As we were worshipping Him and beholding Him, **I actually saw gifts coming down.** Matt 7:11 (TPT) *"If you, imperfect as you are, know how to lovingly take care of your children and give them what's best, how much more ready is your Heavenly Father to give wonderful gifts to those who ask Him."* That really blessed me - as the Father and the Friend, and the goodness of God. **Anne:** We receive your good gifts. We receive You, Lord!

**Colleen - inspired from worship:** I have a charge for us to carry this forward in this month. We are being reminded by the Lord to go back and recount His faithfulness. If you have to sit down with a journal, tell stories back and forth with a loved one of moments where God has been faithful and his goodness was shown to you - we need to be rehearsing that this month. It builds altars to the Lord... This is rehearsing His goodness. I believe this is plowing ground for us in the days ahead. **Susie:** It's building an arsenal for ourselves and for others to advance boldly in the Lord; rehearsing His faithfulness.

## Corporate Crossing Over to Shevat

### Worship and Testimony of the Goodness of God

**Many respond with praise, testimony, prayers, and thanksgiving!** *You are so so good!*

**Kathy:** *There is nothing that can separate us from Your love! Even in our darkest moments, You are there! You lift us up and enable us to stand and breakthrough! You are our hope that is more solid than anything the world will try to push out there!* **Susie:** I love CeCe's version of this song with all the troop behind her - that's us standing together, singing together,



*"Goodness of God" sung by CeCe Winans*

singing our testimony together! *Even in the times we're pressing and when we don't see it, even in the times it's hard, You're working! Lord, let this bubble up in us, how Your goodness and Your mercy is following us all the days of our lives! Thank you for Your goodness!* **Kim:** There's a line in that song that always grabs my heart, *"all my life You have been faithful."* Even when I wasn't faithful, He was. And before I surrendered my life to Him, He was faithful. *Lord, thank You for not giving up on me!* **Susie:** I love the line, *"I've known you as a Father, and I've known you as a friend."* So much there.

**Pratt:** I think about how I was raised and where I was growing up, and where I am today - it is only because of the faithfulness of God. It's nothing I did, it's all Him. **Matthew:** *Father, I thank You for these precious moments, and for creating more moments of intimacy with each of us, and I thank You that in Your Word, where You spoke with Moses face to face, as one friend to another - that these words will become rhema words and experiences for us throughout the days and nights, according to Your plan and purpose, and for Your Glory and Honor. We love you, Father!* **Mandie:** Regarding the "Father and Friend" line of the song I declare: *Lord, be the Father of our Spirits. And as our Friend, Lord I ask that we know You as a precious friend, but I decree that we will not become familiar; we will not be a familiar friend.*

**Marjorie:** *"All my life You have been faithful."* It's not just the journey with Him, but really all my life - as a child the innocence of ignorance... the choices my mother made... all that was foundation for where I am today. *Father, I thank You, You have been a Guide. Your Word has been a lamp unto my feet as a family, even as it has been to this Troop. You were there when I didn't know you, when I knew you, when I drifted away, and when I was so intensely in love with You. All my life You have been with me. I thank You for Your faithfulness!* **These are not just words of a song, but our experience.** *As we walk about in testimony with You, let it be so large - that our lives' experiences be testimonies for persons looking on, and for persons hearing us, and for persons You are putting in our lives to influence for Your Kingdom. So let it be, in Jesus' name.* **Gloria:** He made the first move - He chose us not knowing if we would receive Him - He broke the fear off being first (doing new things.) I decree we have no fear of stepping out into the new thing, moving in the first.

## Fruitful Living in Shevat

**Anne:** As an apostolic Troop, let's send out into the atmosphere, and ahead into our fields of harvest: **Psalm 34:8 NIV "Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him."** That is a good news message, calling people to come to the Lord, and taste and see He is good!

*Lord, in the name of Jesus I am asking that You would display Your awesome power. As we have testified of Your goodness, we want to send Your Word ahead into our fields of harvest, together right now - the power and anointing of what you have done in this worship and those gifts You've given us! Lord, we add our faith to Your promise! Your Word is True! **We send this ahead as a Troop: "Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him!"***

## Believe God in Shevat

**Susie: Shevat is a month to believe God.**

The letter associated with Shevat, *tzadik*, means righteousness. The seasonal sign in the sky, is the constellation Aquarius, the water bearer. I see a connection between *tzadik* and righteousness, and the water bearer. When we put on our armor of God we have a breastplate of righteousness that protects and covers our heart. **Proverbs 4:23 Guard your heart with all diligence for out of it flows the streams of life. So we're protecting our heart with the breastplate of righteousness.**

Jesus said (John 7:38) that everyone who believes in Me, **out of their innermost being flows rivers of living water.**

Our righteousness, which comes only by faith, is the source of His living water flowing out of us. I want us to remember all month long, whenever we hear of *tzadik* or righteousness, and whenever we connect this month that Aquarius is in the sky - let's remind ourselves **this is a month to believe God!** *Lord, we are asking You to stir in us this month the faith in You that is reckoned to us as righteousness, just as you said of Abraham. And let those rivers of living water pour out when You want them to pour out. We guard and protect them that You would keep us undefiled and pure in You, in Jesus' name.*

## Prophetic Revelation for Shevat

**Jennie Wrenn:** For several years, this time of year (Shevat), I'll get Joshua 1 and 3. But this year I got a focus on Joshua 3. I heard "you've never gone this way before." It was so weighty, and so heavy. I'm crying, driving down the road because of the presence of the Holy Spirit. It was like the Lord was saying, "You've really not gone this way before", and I was saying back to Him, "We have not gone this way before." It was not scary, or doom and gloom at all. It was very sobering. The Lord was letting me know that we're in a new era and it was very, very clear: **you have not been this way before.** I just kept saying it back to Him. I don't know where I'm going - only You know Lord, **only You know the path to success.** And prospering is through You and from You. Just a real yielding and submitting because we've not been this way before. Those two things were really big.

As I continued to press in with the Lord, asking about Joshua 1 and 3, He started stirring in my spirit, **"in Spring, kings go to war."** He was saying now - like He's stirring that the battle is now. What He was really putting before me: everything we're going to need before the actual war time is here, the preparation for the war time is now. It is not a season of taking it easy and kicking it back. There's a real alarm bell going off that the war is in the springtime, but preparing for the war, the hour is now. We are here.

**Susie:** When Jenni shared this with me, I had likewise been hearing the verse, "In the springtime the kings go to war." For me it was a trigger to recognize that we need to be getting prepared and being ready. And being alert and being watchful. This is not a time to be casual or have a casual walk with the Lord. It's a time to ramp up commitment.

**Camille:** For the last three months I kept hearing "prepare". I went to the scripture, "prepare ye the way." He said to me specifically it was almost like a hashtag: Don't be scared, be prepared. You're not to be trembling, this is the moment you were born for. But prepare, don't change the subject.

**Colleen:** What Jennie was saying about we're in a preparation for the season of war - regarding Joshua 1 and 3, I'm noting that by that time Moses was dead. There was an old thing that passed away, if you will. We know we've been trying to move in a new wineskin - this is something the Lord has been doing in our Troop. What this war season was about for them was "take possession of the land I've given you." It's important for us to understand that we're not just going to war willy-nilly with anything out there that's coming at Christians. We're not fighting little devils behind every bush. No! We've got a land to possess that the Lord has given us. We have a very strategic goal, and it's to follow after the Lord and where His Spirit is leading so that we can go in and take possession of the land. I wanted to clarify that because as we're talking about this knowing who we are, knowing the Lord, knowing who we are in Christ, knowing who we're aligned with, knowing who the enemy is, it is because we have a call from the Lord to take possession for Him so His Kingdom can come and His Will can be done here on this earth.

## Prophetic Revelation for Shevat cont'd

**Kelli** - I feel a portion of that preparation is really being rooted and established in who we are in Christ Jesus. That is what the Lord keeps going over with me. Not only in the mediating of His Word, but in meditating on the word seeing yourself in that Word. Seeing yourself walking down the street and you are in Christ. And what does that look like if Christ was walking down that street and what's going to happen: He's the Light of the world and the darkness is going to be dispelled as He's walking down that street!

He gave me a beautiful dream - it's exactly what Jennie is talking about - this preparation and being

prepared. Because when we get to the battle we are going to be so confident in Whose we are and who we are! The Lord literally told me, Kelli, it's a set-up in your favor! It's a set up in your favor but you have to walk in who you are. You cannot be distracted. Distractions can be everywhere - all these contrary sights and things like that. But the Lord says, No, I want you so abiding in Me and so attached to Me, that you only see what I see and you only hear what I hear. That is the preparation He is doing and wants us to grab ahold of in this time and season.

**Pratt:** In Joshua 1 - He set the boundaries. He set the borders and he said this is your territory. If they had gone beyond their territory, I'm not sure the covering would've been there. But they had the covering to take that territory. So if we have the authority and the covering for the Carolinas, for that territory, then we can take that territory.

**Susie:** Absolutely! That's why it's so important to know who you're aligned with. We know what our assignment is, we know what our alignment is, we know what our boundaries are, we know what the Lord has called us to do, and we don't want to step outside of that. We want to do fully what the Lord has given us to do. We are not sitting around waiting to see what's going to happen. We are engaged with and moving with Holy Spirit to be part of what He's doing. We can't do that on our own, we must be hearing what He's saying and doing it. You mentioned covering. We have a tent up above us in the Carolinas and into Virginia. It's a tent that is built on a new foundation - the foundation of God's Kingdom government.

**Jennie continues:** There's a real trap going on - trying to lull us. It's like when you rock a child, and they drift off. I've seen a lulling. It's like when you doze off. The Lord is showing me it's a lulling vs. what He wants to do, which is a restoring. There's a very different thing - it almost seems like falls under like self care - it may seem like a good thing, like self-care or a great idea that seems like the right thing, but it's not. It's a lulling to lull you to sleep. It's really to dull you. It's so subtle, you don't even know it. The Lord was showing me lull vs. restore.

And this is what He brought to my attention: we've been dealing with the last 4-5 years. First covid, then the last 4 years of everything going on in America, to the election last year, to the transition from November to January, to the transition of the final stretch from one administration to the other. Obviously there are spiritual things happening here. But it's been a lot; it's been really draining.

**Susie: This is an assignment for this month** - it will be our conversation all month long. I want to bring this in: the book "A Time to Triumph, How to Win the War Ahead" that Chuck wrote. It's very pertinent. I've grabbed hold of preparation from this book, he's got a list of how we need to be ready, Kelli nailed one of them.

**1) We need to know the Lord.** As a Troop, we're pressing in the know the Voice of Holy Spirit and to know His Word, - to know the Lord. Let's have our sandbags in place of scripture truths that we have hidden in our heart that we can use in the line of defense. One of mine is, "*When we sit enthroned under the shadow of Shaddai, we are hidden in the strength of God most high. He's the hope that holds us, He's the stronghold that shelters us. He's the only God for us and our great confidence.*" (PS 91 TPT)

**2) We need to know who we are in Christ.** I can't say it any better than Kelli did. We're to pray that in.

**3) We need to know who we're aligned with.** This is so key - it's also what we're constantly pressing for: being aligned, knowing one another, knowing those that labor among us, linking shields, and standing with and for one another.

**4) Know who our enemy is.** Because we're not ignorant of his schemes. So, there's an alertness that we want to practice and learn how to practice in knowing all these things.



## Prophetic Revelation for Shevat cont'd

**Jennie continues:** The Lord showed me there's a lulling taking place now. Not that we think the work's over, we all know the work is just starting. He was showing me there's a tendency to think, "I need a break and to recoup. But during middle of WW2, the war just kept going. They didn't just decide to take a break for R&R and say we're just going to pull off here. That's not theirs to decide. The Lord was showing me that the war is still going on. You can't just decide whether you're going to take a break or not. You need to know when you can take a break and when you can't take a break. It's not time to take it easy or take a little break here and get back on. Because He showed me the time is now - the time is now to prepare. He was showing me specifically that He knows way better than what we know - what we need for restoring, restoring our bodies, restoring our souls. It is really relying on Psalm 23, about how He restores us.

Psalm 51 (Message) talks about putting fresh wind in our sails. I've been pressing into that - I really need some fresh wind in my sails. So it's really leaning into the Lord to restore us and to upgrade things that need upgrading. That's on the table - restoring. Sometimes you just need a total upgrade, whether it's your body - just lots of options on the table. He knows what it is.

**Susie:** When the Lord has warnings like this for us, it's to HELP us! Thank You Lord for giving us these warning bells. I'm thinking of Joshua 1, "Be strong and courageous" repeated over and over again. That is from the Lord for each one of us. You have the power and authority from the Lord to be both strong and to be courageous in Him.



**Anne Dream Revelation:** The Lord is strongly blessing us with a warning ahead of time - what a blessing that we can avoid being lulled to sleep! Or, if you find yourself there, to **wake up!**

I was having lunch with an old friend who was telling me about a new friend she met, who loves and walks with God, and has quite an overcoming story. The Lord warned her when she was in the hospital about anesthesia, and about someone who was like an angel of death.

Just that morning, I had a dream about (spiritual) anesthesia! Imagine if you had a dream about anesthesia and hours later you are having lunch and someone says this rare thing! God is trying to tell me something!

*Dream: I was in a hospital room on a bed alone and I felt very vulnerable to the anesthesia nurse (female). I was pondering that and feeling it, and the dream stopped there. Then to have that luncheon where I heard the story relayed - He gave her instructions in advance!*

God is giving these warnings - because we can hear His voice, especially when together - not isolated, which can cause us to be alone, and not independent, which can cause us to be alone. We do not want to be there! That's the first warning from the dream - if you're drawn to isolation or independence, get up off that gurney and say NO!

The other thing is anesthesia. The enemy would love to have the warring bride of Christ go to sleep. The enemy would love to have the Kingdom people of God submit themselves to something that would be the spiritual version of anesthesia - through someone you ought to be able to trust - maybe you never met them before, but by reputation or whatever ... Authority really flows through relationship, we've learned this. So that's a warning. It's a warning dream to be on guard against the plan of the enemy.

When the enemy's plan is hidden that is a big problem. We pray: Lord, expose the plan of the enemy - anything evil, wicked, or dangerous. And God is faithful! It's His goodness that He exposes this.

Remember the church of Sardis in Revelation 3. As you hear this, know that we are going pray and send out this message of "wake up" to the warring Bride of Christ in this season of war. Rev 3:1-6 (NIV) "... I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. Wake Up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you. Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with Me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life but will acknowledge his name before my Father and His angels. Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

## Prophetic Revelation for Shevat cont'd

**Sandy:** Everything Jennie said, we spoke about in our (local) First fruits meeting yesterday. I'd like to pray - as Jesus prayed for His disciples when He knew they were about to be tested, He prayed for them proactively. Lord I pray for this Troop, I pray for those in our area and throughout the Body, Father, that You'd expose the enemy and the plans of the enemy, and that the enemy is not be able to sift us as wheat. Lord, I pray for the protection for all us; Your Holy Spirit, Your Host of Angels, the Host of Angels to help and protect us, to keep us aware, to keep us vigilant. Keep us watchful, and I pray that our faith would not fail. And that for our leaders as well; that they would be vigilant and watchful, in Jesus' name.

**Anne:** In the Name of Jesus, we speak to that enemy that has a strategy with a needle in their hand and spiritual anesthesia. We say the Lord rebuke you! And you must drop that poison! You must drop it now! Your plans fall to the ground!

In the name of Jesus, I speak over everybody who gathers with us, and all in this Troop: **we shall complete the works the Lord has assigned to us! They shall not go unfinished!**

I speak to those people who may be off in independence or isolation, who God has called into this Kingdom move: **by the mercy of God we call you to come out and get back on your wall, to get back with your Troop, to stay in step with Holy Spirit. Wake up sleeper! Wake up sleeper!** We speak that over the Body of Christ in the Carolinas and Virginia and in every territory that is represented by every participant now and who are watching later. Now is the time to be alert and on the wall! The Captain of the Host calls us to order in Jesus' name!

**Colleen:** 3 definitions of lulling:

Lulling: to cause someone to feel deceptively secure. Lord, I decree over our Troop that there's not any form of deception that we're going to walk in; but we are discerners of the Spirit of the Lord. We are those that hear the voice of the Lord and the voice of the stranger, we will not follow. Our security we know is in the Lord. We do not trust in horses, we do not trust in chariots; we trust in the Name of the Lord. Therefore, we walk securely and we will not be lulled by any false spirit into some sort of false security, in Jesus' name.

Lulling: a calm sending to sleep, typically with soothing sounds or movements. I pray over every sound in our frequencies in our atmospheres that we come into contact with this month, that those sounds will not be deceptive sounds that would be able to lull our spirits to sleep. I say that in Jesus' name, we send angels on assignment to push back on every spirit that would be a deceptive spirit trying to bring lulling to our ears. We say it will not attach to our hearts or to our spirits and will not put us in this false state of lulling, in Jesus name. Also "movement": I'm looking around at what's going on in the Spirit - and we will be those who recognize and we will not be lulled to sleep by what is happening around us and the movement around us, No! We will be those who discern! And we will not put our swords down and we will not put our shields down, but we will actively be engaged with the Lord, moving with His Spirit and not with any other false spirit.

Lulling: a noise or a storm that abates and falls quiet for a moment, a lull in a storm. So I pray over us, that the peace of God rolls over our Troop. The peace of God does roll over and push back storms. But we will not be deceived by any spirit that we have been pressing back against, that appears to lift for a moment only to hide and try to come back. No! We are those whose eyes stay sharp, and we keep our hand to the plow, and we keep moving with the Lord. In Jesus name. Thank You Lord, for making it so by Your Spirit. Thank you for the warning that we walk under.

**Shannon:** When talking about the lulling, of course I saw a frog in water, slowly boiling, not realizing what it is. But the Lord was speaking to me about re-kindling. *2 Timothy 1:6 "for this reason, I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of hands."* Paul's encouraging Timothy to stir up and re-ignite the spiritual gift God has given him, much like a fire that needs to be kept burning strong. That is a key for not being lulled to sleep, to keep that fire strong within us and that gifting stirred up within us. In the Name of Jesus the Christ, I decree and declare over this Troop that we are stirring up the flames within our bellies; the gifts and callings that You have put inside us. We will not be lulled into laziness or letting the fire go out! I thank You Father God that the fire burns bright upon each one of us. I declare it in Mighty name of Jesus.

**Michelle:** Lord, You have been so so good - You have been so faithful. We are intentional about discernment, we are intentional about the war ahead, we are intentional about who we are in You. Lord, we are intentional to have oil in our lamps. That oil is so huge on what everyone has said, and it lights the fire, it ignites and goes on and on. Lord, we want to be alert and ready. We will overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony. We will be strong and courageous in Jesus' name. **Susie:** And we will love not our lives, even unto death!

## Shevat: Month 11 and Grace for Perseverance

**Susie:** We thank You Lord, that the gears of revival are turning, and we are turning with them, we are part of this. We say, revival come, revival come in us, revival come in our land! I pray over everyone in our Troop, each one of us here, each one watching later. Father, I pray for strength in our inner man, for strength in our spirit man. Thank You that You are equipping us and You are strengthening us with Your shalom. We are standing up in You. Lord, I thank You for even what was spoken earlier, the gifts You give to those who love You. I thank You for the gift of courage that You give us Lord, because we know that Your love is greater. Your love is for us. I pray each one will supernaturally receive the knowledge of Your love, Lord, and it will cast out any fear. That we will be courageous because we know Your love is deep within us. Father, I pray for this Troop to be ligament-ed together and standing together for alertness and for sensitivity; for hearing ears and seeing eyes, hearts that are single-minded in devotion to You as we advance together, for Your Glory. Set Your guard around us. Set Your seal upon us. We put the blood line around this Troop, in Jesus' name.

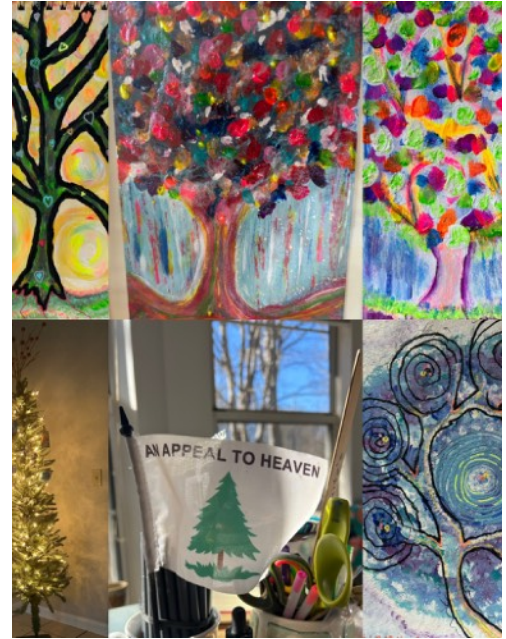
**Susie:** We want to move in the timing of the Lord and watch the signs and be sensitive to Holy Spirit. That is our prayer - we'll be unpacking these things more as we go through the month. Laying these things out on 'FIRST', I want everyone to grab hold and move with us.

**Camille:** I decree from Ephesians 3:16 I pray that God would unveil within us, the favor and the riches of His unlimited power until it overflows us with the strength of the Holy Spirit where we are activated in *dunamis* power. So, as we see and we are illuminated by the light of Christ, we are activated into the power of the Holy Spirit to take atmospheres that He has allowed us by the overflowing of the Holy Spirit. That we are not only protected, but we are advancing by the power of the Holy Spirit now, in Jesus' name!

**Susie:** Let's all receive these things that are being revealed by the Holy Spirit deep in our spirits.

The Lord was speaking to me for this month, "grace for perseverance." He is pouring out for us "grace for perseverance." Shevat is month 11 and at all 11s, it's like we are at the top of the staircase and there is a door - we decide if we're going through. But The Lord is saying, grace to go through that doorway, grace to persevere. Persevere in the dictionary: persistence in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success; the effort required to do something and keep doing it until the end, even if it's hard. I bless us all with the understanding that God is giving us grace for perseverance, and we will lay hold of that. We cannot complete our works (church at Sardis, cannot complete our works) without perseverance, so we're standing firm.

## Creative Expression for Shevat



Sharon Penquite's Tree Collage in the month of trees

### First Fruit offering for Shevat

#### Kathleen's poem:

King Jesus, thank You for the blood that ends the night

Thank You for Your blood that makes all things right.

King Jesus, thank You for the blood that restores my sight,

Thank You for Your blood that washes me white.

King Jesus, thank You for freely giving Your life

To daily be my delight!

**Susie:** On [embassyofzion.org](http://embassyofzion.org) is [Christine Vales' Chalk Talk](#). We put that on the FIRST! page each month. Her Chalk Talk is especially good this month for Shevat. It focuses a lot on **Psalm 1** and talks about trees, and of course water.

I want to connect Psalm 1 with Joshua 1 in that both of these chapters connect with meditating on God's Word day and night. I believe that is what one of the calls of God is or us as we press through to persevere, to come above, and to be strong and courageous, and to keep moving through Him towards the grand promise He's given all of us.



## Rooted and Established in Shevat 5785

 **The month linked with trees and fruitfulness:**

- **connecting with the root of Jesus, and what He reveals about His expanding Kingdom, eating of the Tree of Life in New Jerusalem!**
- **articulating the process of living and growing and “fruiting out” in the Kingdom, with the generations.**

**Anne:** Here I’m combining the topic for Shevat with the invitation to Kingdom Life which begins on Feb 10<sup>th</sup>. We all have life in the Kingdom. And specifically in EOZ we have a spiritual growth track we call KL – because we want to grow, together, in our acumen with living the KL, bearing the image of Jesus more and more. Everyone is welcome to KL.

According to 2 Corinthians 5, we’re ambassadors, we are ministers of reconciliation. That’s our ministry in the Lord. “Be reconciled to God.” We have a specific call in Shevat to invite others to the goodness of God, which we sent earlier: taste and see that the Lord is good, blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him. Psalm 34:8 in TPT, “Drink deeply of the pleasures of this God. Experience for yourself the joyous mercies He gives to all those who turn to hide themselves in Him.” We receive that word for ourselves but we also want to be speakers of the Word of God. Say to others: “Drink deeply of the pleasures of this God! Experience for yourself the joyous mercies He gives to who turn to hide themselves in Him!”

Shevat is our month to fruit out. It’s linked with trees, therefore fruitfulness, also linked with seeds. In Israel the olive tree blossoms in Shevat. That has a lot of revelatory prophetic meaning, a lot of Bible theology - the olive tree, how we’re grafted in – the one new man emerging.

Several trees are mentioned in the Bible... Revelation 22, the Tree of Life in God’s Garden City! Lord, we love your word. Let this root deeply in us and bear much fruit for Your Kingdom and glory, in Jesus’ Name.

Revelation 22:1-5, 14,17 *Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every*

*month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and His servants will serve him. They will see His Face, and His Name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.*

Flip back to a couple months ago when we examined the cultural mandate in Genesis 1, when God planted a garden and He said ‘be fruitful and multiply.’ We want to fill it, fill the whole earth with the glory of God. God is bringing his Garden City, which is full of His Glory, down to earth! In the meantime, we say Come Lord, let Your Kingdom come!

v 14: *Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the City.*

v 17: *The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” (Holy Spirit in you right now, Bride – we’re in agreement with Him and we say “Come!”) and let the one who hears say, “Come!” Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life.*

Back on Psalm 34:8 TPT “Drink deeply of the pleasures of this God. Experience for yourself the joyous mercies He gives to all those who turn to hide themselves in Him.”



### Sent Out

Susie: There has been a lot of richness and fullness poured out on us tonight. **Let’s be filled with the goodness of God, filled with the strength of his faithfulness. Let’s go forth into this month with the strength and the empowerment that God gives through his love and faithfulness and goodness** - standing firm with the Lord all the days of our lives, because He alone are worthy of our praise! We are advancing together, in Jesus’ name!