

MINISTRY NOTES

TEVET 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!*

Celebrating FIRST : Timing of this Tevet

Susie: This is called FIRST because we gather to put Jesus FIRST at the head of the month. We acknowledge He is the Head. Today is unique being both the first day of Tevet, and the first day of January and our Gregorian calendar year. What a great fresh start to welcome Jesus! We are here for You and acknowledge *You are the FIRST!*

Colossians 1:18-20 (TPT) *"He is the Head of his body, which is the church. And since he is the beginning and the firstborn heir in resurrection, he is the most exalted One, holding first place in everything. For God is satisfied to have all his fullness dwelling in Christ. And by the blood of his cross, everything in heaven and earth is brought back to himself—back to its original intent, restored to innocence again!"*



So on this *FIRST!*, we acknowledge in a special way: Jesus, You are First in our lives! The dictionary defines *first*: *being before all others with the respect to time, order, rank, importance etc. Used as the ordinal order one.* Lord, You are the first born heir in resurrection and we exalt Your name. **Your throne shall be occupied by none other than YOU!** We put your first in the throne of our hearts.

Wrapping up Kislev: Testimonies from Kislev

Kim: My daughter had a Kislev dream that we as a family were floating in the middle of the ocean and there was a dread there. She thought a shark was coming to get us. It was a powerful angel that came and blew us onto dry land. Praise God He is giving dreams and visions to people of all ages.

Susie: I wrote a (summary) Kislev poem: *Hit the mark, seeds in the dark, flowing in the jet stream, having a God-dream*

Kent: Authority... in Kislev - my daughter had the flu. The word has been that we're going to have access to *dunamis* power. We called upon the Lord, my daughter and I took communion, and then she said all my aches and pains are going away - I'm going to work tomorrow - I'm ok now! We were stunned!

Susie: We receive all You have for us. TY that we came through with You in Kislev! TY for the expectation You gave us. Where the enemy would try to change the times and laws, we step in time and stay in agreement with Your time. As we celebrate First Fruits, TY for getting us in the blessing cycle of putting You first. TY for ordering our steps so we are in the right time!

Focusing Forward in Tevet!

Susie: Tevet is a month we want to worship the Lord because idolatry has consequences. That was how I was looking at one of the big events that happened in Scripture in this 10th month, when Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to Jerusalem. This was the end of Judah; Israel had fallen before. That was all because God's people took their eyes off Him and began to worship other gods. Let's take that lesson - that is not our end!

Other identifiers for Tevet:

This is the month linked with the letter *Ayin*. It depicts an eye, a spring. I feel this is a month at the beginning of the year that is giving us an "eye forward." We want ur eye to be clear. It doesn't just happen. We have to work at getting the mixture out. It's so encouraging to have others working on this also, isn't it?

Luke 11:34 (TPT) *The eyes of your spirit allow revelation-light to enter into your being. When your heart is open the light floods in. But when your heart is hard and closed, the light cannot penetrate and darkness takes its place.*

Is your heart open? This verse goes along with it.

Proverbs 4:23 (NASB) *"Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life."*

Goes along with Luke 11.

Proverbs 4:23 (TPT) *So above all, guard the affections of your heart, for they affect all that you are.*

So we want our hearts to be open. Is that something we can press forward on, in an ayin month?

Revelatory Responses to Worship/ Activation

Anne: I was listening to a worship song – and heard what I want on my gravestone: "For the love of Jesus Christ who resurrected me." It's from this song, "King of Kings" from Brooke Ligertwood. It beautifully transitions us from Kislev to Tevet. More than that, it's a song that models testimony; it's the story of Jesus.

Declarations

Anne: Testimony is praise! We praise You with our lives! We give our lives to You in offering, as praise. We're testifying of the resurrection power of Jesus - the reasons you came - we were waiting in the darkness and You show up and bring us life, glory, and light! You change us forever! Lord, everything we are is Yours!

Sandy: We thank You for resurrection - that in every dark place we are sent, we can be a light, regardless of emotions and feelings, we can be a light. This is the victory that overcame the world, even our faith. And we bring the resurrection power that You have given us through Your resurrection.

Susie: Lord, let praise shine through us. Fill our mouths with praise for You!

Kelli: We say we are conduits and vessels for Your light to be released through into our territories, our cities, our homes. And that the power of Your light will dispel the darkness around us, Lord. So that many - the god of this age who has blinded people – it can be broken off in Jesus' Name! And they can see the Way, Truth, and Life that is Jesus Christ. Pour out your Spirit and power in and through us, Lord. We release the substance of our faith to believe that You can do this! The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, and all its inhabitants are Yours, Lord! It's Yours to possess the nations; we do not stand in Your way. We release our faith and ask you to pour out Your Great Light and release it into our territory, in Jesus' powerful name.

Susie: Day and night let our praises be heard in the heavenly places, Lord! Receive our praises, love, thanksgiving! Hear our cries. TY Lord!

Pratt: We pray that Your light, Father - as light reveals what is hidden, we pray that Your light would be revelation for us that we can see clearly through the transition periods we're going through, we can see clearly the path You want us to take. Not just being light for the sake of being light, but let us take advantage of the light and apply the revelation and knowledge, as we begin this year.

Kent: We praise Him for His marvelous works in and through us. Jesus, who is the Light gave everything to get that light into us. He has delivered us out of the kingdom of darkness into His kingdom of marvelous light... It means our whole spirit, soul, and body have been translated into the Light, the Kingdom. The light will push the darkness out of the way.

Melanie: TY that You are the God of the Breakthroughs! We are decreeing that everywhere we go, whoever needs the breakthrough, that You are the God of the breakthrough, in every situation, for every individual!



Brooke Ligertwood "King of Kings"

Focusing Forward and set a rear guard over the past, cont'd

=>How can our eyes be clear? What will it take?

Sandy: Matt 6:22 says, If your eye is light, then your body will be light. But if dark, there is darkness in your body. Having your eyes all clear is about laying down our wills, our emotions, putting us aside and being led by the Spirit - because that's only way we can truly see. This willful yielding, intentional yielding of self, of our giftings - everything we are and have is nothing if it is not yielded to Him first.

Susie: That scripture, Luke 11:34 is also in Matthew and Mark.

Robin: In order to have a clear eye, you have to have a repentant heart.

Susie: That goes along with guard your heart.

Pratt: Also I see this as renewing your mind. When you look at something and it gets out of focus, you have to move it to get back in focus so your mind can comprehend and concentrate.

Susie: Focus is what brings clarity, and focus is what are we looking at - ourselves or the Lord? Are we focusing on what do we want? Or what's *the Lord doing* in my environment and atmosphere that I can partner with Him?

Part one for the ayin month is [Focus Forward](#) in this year. We must be intentional about doing this. This month and all year let's focus forward, looking at the Lord. And allow the Lord to lead us on the path He has for us. We cannot stay on the right path unless we are walking with the Lord.

"[We become what we behold.](#)" A challenge, something for us to be conscious of on a higher level is to [focus forward](#) this year.

Then part 2 - [set a rear guard over what's behind us](#). We are moving quickly into new, and more new, yes?

How do we Overcome?

Anne: You know Rev. 12:11. [How do we overcome?](#) It was the great dragon that's overcome. How? 1) [by the Blood of the Lamb](#) (that's Atonement), 2) [by the word of our testimony](#) (that's our worship, telling the Gospel Truth of who Jesus is...), and 3) [loving not our lives unto death](#).

40 Brave Soldiers for Christ

Governor Agricola of Armenia was confronted with "mutiny." Forty soldiers refused to offer the sacrifice ordered by emperor Licinius. The forty who stood before him that wintry fourth-century day in Sevaste were fine specimens of manhood who radiated an aura of courage. He was determined to make them see reason.

But the soldiers were adamant. They refused to sacrifice. To do so was to betray their faith in Christ. "But what about your comrades?" asked Agricola. "Consider--you alone of all Caesar's thousands of troops defy him! Think of the disgrace you bring upon your legion!"

"To disgrace the name of our Lord Jesus Christ is more terrible still," replied the men. Exasperated, the governor threatened to flog and torture them. The soldiers stood firm, although they knew he would carry out his threat. In the fourth century, there were few civil rights. Boldly the men answered, "Nothing you can offer us would replace what we would lose in the next world. As for your threats-- we despise our bodies when the welfare of our souls is at stake."

Pairs of guards seized each man and dragged them out into the cold where they were stripped and tied to posts. Whips laid open their backs and iron hooks tore their sides. Still the forty refused to surrender. Agricola chained them in his dungeons. Finally, he commanded that they be stripped naked and driven onto the ice of a pond below Sevaste.

The "rebels" did not wait for the sentence to be imposed, but tearing off their own clothes, ran to the pond in the raw March air. "We are soldiers of the Lord and fear no hardship," they said. "What is death for us but an entrance into eternal life?" On this day, March 9, 320, singing hymns, they stood shivering on the pond as the sun sank.

Baffled, Agricola ordered hot baths placed around the pond. Surely the warm water would lure the men off the ice! But the crisp night air carried a prayer to all ears: "Lord, there are forty of us engaged in this battle; grant that forty may be crowned and not one be wanting from this sacred number."

One of the men did lose his nerve, however, and crawled off the ice to a bath. He died the instant he touched the hot water. This was too much for one of the guards. He shucked off his clothes, marched onto the ice and took the place of the man who had failed.

Anne: That's testimony. That's why in Acts 1:8 it says be My witnesses - when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you can be my witnesses. That Greek word (witness) is the same word used for martyr. For the love of Jesus Christ who has resurrected me! King of Kings. We are alive in His Kingdom! He is worth everything!

Kim: That's a banner to take every day, week, month: He's worth everything!

Anne: We have a testimony. Dan didn't make it. Lord, we are praying that none be lost! Jesus is interceding for us, and He says "Here I am, putting my blood on this mercy seat. Here I am with every son and daughter You have given Me - none are lost!" Lord, we say that none be lost!

Focus forward (Ayin) and set a rear guard (Dan) over the past, cont'd.

Defining the rear guard: Dan, Asher, and Naphtali are the 3 tribes that were on the North side, and they were the rear guard. So when they moved forward it was in formation. It says Dan was like a snake on the path who threw the riders off. The rear guard are back there to push the enemy back so the whole tribe can move forward - and not allow the enemy to pick off the (straggling) ones in the back. The Bible talks about Glory being our rear guard, too. Whenever we advance, we want to be aware of setting a rear guard in place, because the enemy wants to pick us off from behind. That's a warfare given.

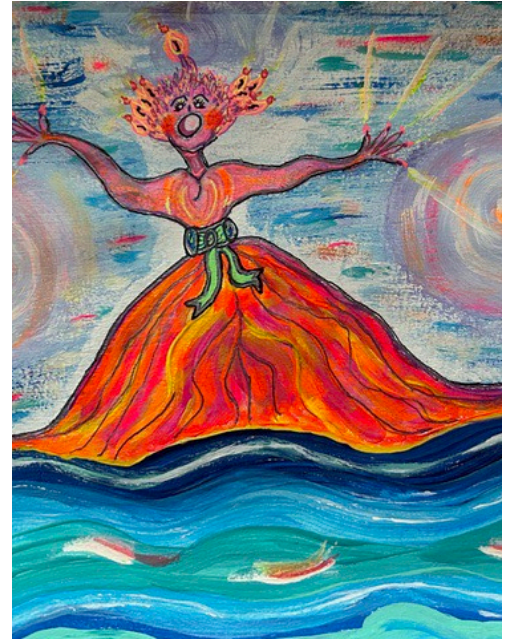
=>As we're focusing forward, moving forward and advancing this year, we also need to set a rear guard over the past. It means we set a bloodline between everything that happened in 2024 -the accomplishments, failures, disappointment, especially the burdens and things like that - we need to resolve the angst or any negative thing we're carrying about that, and set a rear guard - focus forward on what the Lord has for us. We learn from our mistakes, but we don't want to carry those them with us.

Kim: I want to pull in on that rear guard. Lord, we TY for the blood and bloodline around 2024. We set everything at the cross. TY Father for Your provision, for successes, for all the testing that we have come through. We TY for even the failures. We TY for repentance and forgiveness. We ask those things of the last season be cut off. The blood of Jesus covers us. We come in focused! We come in with an open heart; yielded to You, looking forward and focusing forward! I decree that over the Troop today. TY Father! Let that rear guard be like the sword - when Adam and Eve came out of the garden, they couldn't go back. Let that sword be between 2024 and 2025, in Jesus name.

Nancy: I did a search of scripture with "rear guard." Isaiah 52:12 (AMPC) *"For you will not go out with haste. Nor will you go in flight which was necessary when Israel left Egypt. For the Lord will go before you and the God of Israel will be your rear guard."*

Susie: That's our verse this month. ISA 52:12 every week (52) and month (12) of the year! The Lord has gone before us and He'll be our rear guard!

Prophetic Art for Tevet



Art by Sharon Penquite: "Water Walker Forward"

Sharon P: She has the Hanukkah in her hair - all 9 lights lit up. She's a herald; she's declaring and decreeing God's words, singing spiritual songs. She has a scroll of truth tied to her spirit man, around her waist, right under her heart. Chuck this past Sunday, "This is a first fruit that is connecting an end to a beginning. Decree: there is something I've never seen before!"

She reminds me of John 1:5, "Let there be light." She has the lightning of God running through her and coming out of her. She's walking in His blood on water. She's engulfed in the oranges, reds, and cranberries of His blood. The lights on her left and right are lighting a pathway forward. It's the Isaiah 35 Highway of Holiness. Her arms are wide open in praise and worship to the King as she gives off and receives resurrection power.

Susie: Our Tevet lady! Water Walker Forward!

=>In summary:

Focus forward and set a rear guard over the past.

Establish spiritual disciplines to exercise throughout this year that will help you watch and war.

That's all connected with worship. Idolatry has consequences that we don't want to pull in. Father, I pray that You would gird us up in this month of Tevet. Thank You for the First and for the New. Lord we are setting our hearts and focus on You to move forward, in Jesus' Name.

Living in the Atonement in Tevet: No Condemnation!

Anne: Why is Tevet linked with testimony? Beyond the Hebrew word linked with Tevet and testimony, you have the 10 commandments in the Ark of the Testimony, also called the Ark of the Covenant. We have a great blessing to testify with our lives to God, as opposed to those people waiting in the dark, waiting and don't have the light yet. Does anyone know why January is called January? (The god Janus, having two faces, looking both ways - into the past and the future. This shows double-mindedness.)

Lord, I speak the blessing of single mindedness over this Troop! We belong to the Lord, our lives are not our own, we are bought with a price! We are living for the One who died for us, 2 Corinthians 5:15. That sets aside regret. Rev. 12, that precious scripture that they overcame by Blood of the Lamb, the word of their testimony, and they loved not their lives unto death - what's the context? It's where the accuser of the brethren is overthrown!

Romans 8:1 *"There is now no more condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus."* I'm thinking about it in a new way. As opposed to that picture of Janus, for whom January is named... as opposed to living trapped in the past and with duplicity - We are in Christ. Rejoice! The battle is won! If we're seated with Christ, the heavenly man, in the heavenly places where the accuser is cast down, there is no more condemnation there for us right now. There's only the voice of intercession going on for us right now. That's GOOD News! The accuser is cast down from heaven, there is now no more condemnation, no more stuck in the past. Who can tell what it means to be a new creation, 2 Cor 5?

Sandy: In regards to 2 Corinthians 5 scripture, when it says, *"Old things have passed away, you are new creation,"* that word in Greek is the equivalent word of Hebrew *bara* which is in Genesis 1:1, *"He created the heavens and the earth."* Literally brand new. Our mind and will has to catch up!

Anne: Let's let go of the past regrets and look forward, and move forward in the Lord with the Blood of the Lamb. We have a fight! We are bloody warriors. And it's atonement! Every month this year, God has said - here's our promise if we want to take it. Do you want it? He will reveal more and more what it is to live in the atonement if we want it. Let's pause for 60 seconds in silence and reflect that our accuser has been cast down. And where you are (heavenly places) there is no condemnation; rather, Jesus is interceding for you. [Readers, likewise take a 60 second silent meditation.]

So in communication with the Lord right now, is He showing you anything that He is cheering you for letting go of, as He has already let go of it? Your accuser is cast down.

Kent: For the law of the spirit of life... there's no condemnation left. Jesus paid our debt and set us free from the law of sin and death!

Steve: Phil 3:13 (NLT), *"But I focus on one thing, I forget the past and see what lies ahead and press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize which God through Christ Jesus is calling us."* I know in Paul's mind he must have thought, "I wasted so much time fighting on the wrong side, the wrong people, at wrong time, at the wrong place." I know that weighed on Paul. I know what the Holy Spirit settled inside Paul's heart was, "I'm going to forget about the past and I'm going to look forward and fix my eyes on the things which Christ predestined for me, for us, before the foundation of the earth. I'm going to fix my mind on those things. I'm going to pursue the Lord. I'm not going to take a moment to think about what I could've done. I'm going to focus on things I'm going to do.

Anne: Hallelujah! In Tevet, which this year happens to correspond with the month of January, let us be single-minded and meditate on the truth of God's Word. When we read scripture, and we are inviting Holy Spirit to shine His light on it, we rarely want to take one verse out of its context of meaning. We want to see what is this about - because it adds so much richness and truth. We are not exegeting Rev 12 tonight. We are saying there's a battle going on between the promise of God, even the promise of God from Genesis, and our enemy. The good news is right here - focus on this:

Rev. 12:10-12 (NIV) *"Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Messiah. Now have come... You see in scripture the kingdom is near you, in you, and to come. We're thinking on these ways. The passage speaks of an overcoming that has happened, is true. For the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.*

40 men died on the ice that day. And when one failed, the guard was so moved he said I want to have something worthy like that. That day he met the Lord. And he is with these others in heaven where their accuser is cast down. True or false: We are already living in eternity because we're born again - the old's passed away and we have been made new? True! He's already applied the blood in our lives, we're already part of Him. The Lord sees us through the atoning blood of Jesus. There is no condemnation left for us!

Thinking ahead for EOZ Assembly: Acts 19 Ephesus Season

Susie: Our EOZ Assembly will be on what happened in Ephesus. As we're celebrating First Fruits, we're going to focus forward and advance with Him this year.

Think about the message Jesus had in Revelation 2 (years later) for the church at Ephesus.

1. Commended them for working hard and persevering. I think that's true of us.
2. Commends them that they don't tolerate evil. We focus on trying to get the mixture out of us - hating evil and fearing the Lord.
3. Commends that they tested those who claimed to be apostles and proved were imposters. We value authenticity, right?
4. Commends bravely enduring trials and persecutions for His name and not become discouraged.

But He did have one thing that must change or He would remove their lamp stand - very serious. The Ephesians had forgotten their first love.

Let's make sure that our first love is bright and clear. Return to first love.

"To know Him is to love Him." Let's press in to know Him more!

Jesus is first all year long! First love - keep that fire kindled.

Worship - getting rid of ALL idols.

Focusing forward all year long, to keep moving with the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:14 The love of Christ compels us. Ask for this! As a Troop we want to say the love of Christ controls us!

Anne: For the Love of Jesus Christ who has resurrected me! His love compels us!

Living in the Atonement cont'd.

Susie: John 17:3 (NASB) *"This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."*
Knowing the Lord we are in eternal life.

Anne: It is such good news! We want to live in the fullness of the atonement Jesus has made for us. Imagine when the Kingdom people of God live without these restraints, including the influence of the Roman god janus (making us double-minded about our past) - Jesus set us free from that - ALL The way! Imagine when we are living in the fullness of atonement! The Blood speaks! His blood speaks a better word - that's testimony! This is all rolled up in Tevet. It's not only we who speak! What word does Jesus' Blood speak?

Kim: A better word! Resurrection power, forgiveness, love, joy, freedom! It's a better word!

Anne: Amen! His Blood speaks a better word! That is a testimony, vs. the accuser. What if we live in 2025, and specifically this month, in the fullness of the atonement of Jesus - His blood testifying over our lives - no more condemnation!

(continuing the passage) Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short."

We're walking around down here and we are also seated in heavenly places. So right now we are in this incredible time (era) where Holy Spirit is helping us. He is our Helper. We have the weapon of the atoning blood of Jesus. I've been meditating on 2 Thessalonians 2 - Jesus is so powerful, it only takes the breath of His mouth to overthrow the man of lawlessness! And His powerful blood is applied. We are in Him and in His blood is life. The authority of the Blood of Jesus speaks. Wherever we see evil at work, we have a commission to push back that darkness, to fight it; not in our own strength, but through the blood of Jesus. This is living in the atonement. We are not trying to teach eschatology here, but we are moving in the strength and power of God. 1 Corinthians 15 talks of the heavenly man. When we are in Christ we are not only born of the first man, Adam, but we are of the heavenly man, Jesus, the last Adam. Very encouraging. I consider (the second half of) 1 Corinthians 15 among the essential parts of expressing the gospel of the Kingdom.

Overall Comments: Nancy: I'm so thankful we're talking about these things! I don't think about not loving my life unto death enough. I don't think about spiritual disciplines enough. Thank you.

Susie: Making up for lost time - the best way to do that is march forward. It's staying in God's time. He redeems the time. I encourage us to find the redemption of time and get in that blessing cycle. I believe First Fruits worship advances us in this way. Thank you for being on FIRST! This is not only on behalf of us individually but on behalf of our territory. Lord, we want the people of this land and Your creation to be in Your time and blessing.

Kingdom Life: Forward!

These three rear guard months (Tevet, Shevat, Adar) will lead us up to Nisan, month one. In these three months we are shoring up - a fullness launching into Passover month.

KL Tevet - a worship month in our 3 month cycle. Testimony is worship too!

- Testimony: telling the story of Jesus and His impact
- Developing the message of the gospel of the Kingdom where Jesus is King!

KL Shevat - a Rooted and Established month in our 3 month cycle.

- The month of trees; connected with the root of Jesus - what He revealed about His Kingdom -
- Being able to articulate the process of living and growing (Ps 1) and "fruiting out" in the Kingdom

KL Adar - a mission and ministry month in our 3 month cycle.

- This month we discover ways to put all this in to practice, individually and together. As a Troop, let's Shine for Jesus, Live for Jesus, Do Good for Jesus, Minister for Jesus!

What We Do Every Month on **FIRST!**

- At the **FIRST** of every month we PRAISE JESUS, our King!
- We testify of God's goodness this last month, and we thank Him for His goodness in the month ahead.
- We [all together] put Him **FIRST**, giving Him something to remember all month!
- **We declare, "We together are you people, You alone are our GOD!"**
- We are sent out into our Harvest Fields in the revelation Holy Spirit gives us - warnings and strategies for advance, with authority from JESUS for exploits.

=> ACTIVITY: Pray for everyone who joins you in this **FIRST** celebration to walk in the unfolding goodness of the revelation the Lord has given tonight. (And know they are praying for you!)

Kingdom Life Spiritual Growth Track - Invitation for Month 10, Tevet

What is "Kingdom" and what is "Kingdom Life"?

How can I flourish in Kingdom Life?

How can I flourish in Kingdom Life on an apostolic team?

=> How can I help others flourish in Kingdom Life?

THIS MONTH: WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

WHOLENESS individually and **FULLNESS** together

For those who have not participated previously, let us know if you'd like to be included on our Kingdom Life zoom!

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Reminder:

- ✦ **FIRST!** is once a month.
- ✦ We do Kingdom Life two weeks in a month.
- ✦ We do EOZ Assembly two Sunday nights in a month, presently in our Ephesus Season, in Acts 19.

We Are Sent Out!

As we go out, we submit ourselves to you and say draw us close this year. We focus on you forward. We set our minds on things above, where you are seated. We TY that as we go out, You and Your Glory are the rear guard.

We together are your people - You alone are our God!